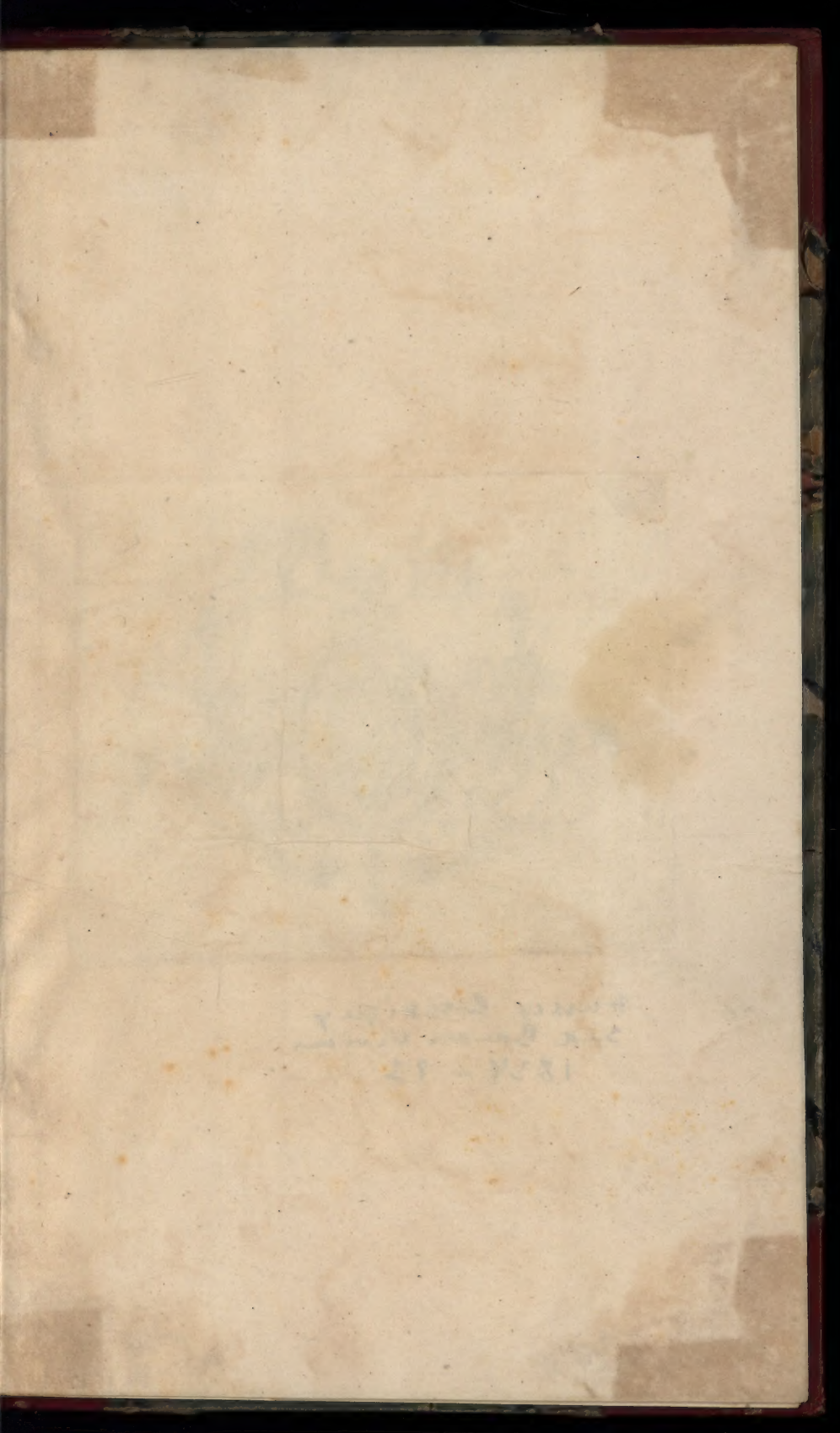
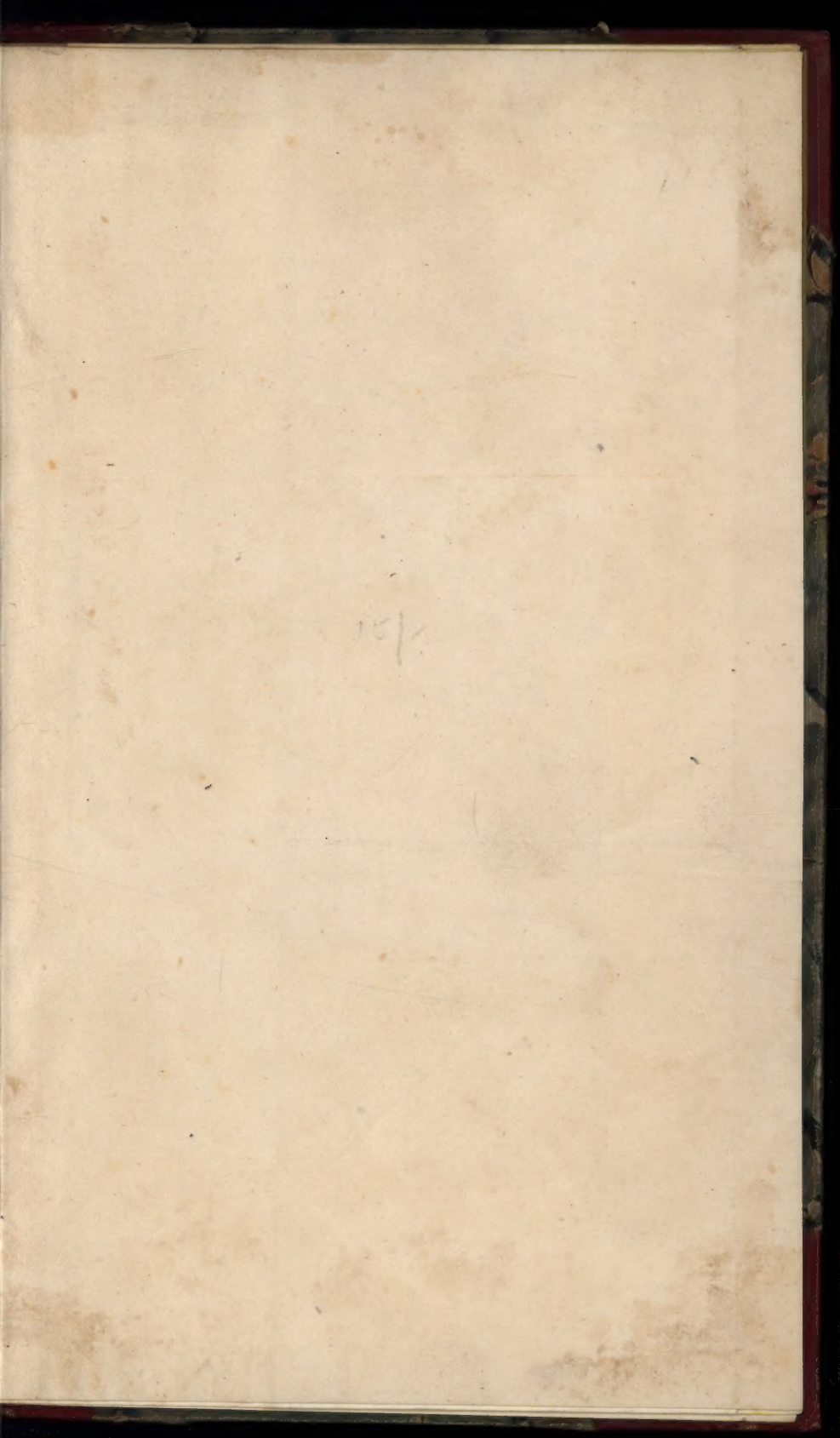


Ulrich Middeldorf



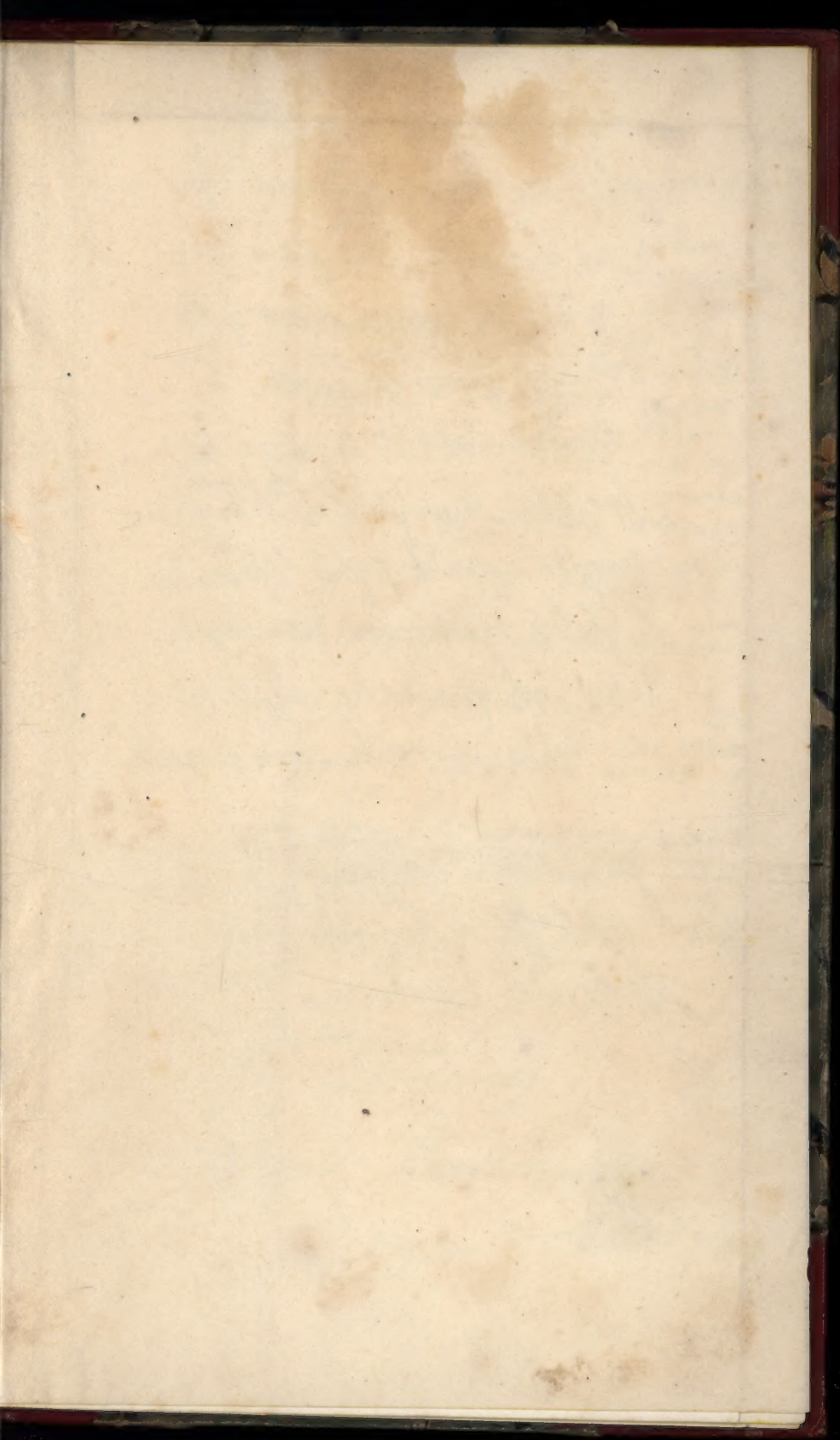


Hursey Creswick
Sed Baran Vivian
1834-92





[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly a signature or date.]





Signore).

Ho ricevuto, per grazioso mezzo del Sig Duca d. Hamilton,
il Saggio dei cartoni di Raffaele, eseguito egregia-
mente nella maniera stessa delle Sultane del
Partenone, che io possiedo, e che conservo con
tanto piacere. Sono grato alla cortesia del suo
animo verso di me, il quale non ho verun merito
onde venire favorito con gentilmente; però il
Dono mi riesce tanto più caro, quanto è più spon-
taneo, e inaspettato. Lodo sommamente il d. Lei
intendimento di dare similmente in questa forma
anche i marmi di Tigalia: sono sicuro che dal
pubblico intelligente verrà accolta con piacere,
e gratitudine una simile impresa.
È molto ben lavorato il sigillo della sua lettera
e mi consolo con Lei delle lodevoli e virtuose
prove de' suoi bravi allievi.

Per rispondere alla domanda che mi fa riguardo all'aquila dipinta da
Annibale Carracci sul segno zodiacale dello Scorpione, nella Villa Farnese,
non saprei veramente darne una ragione positiva: ma un'opinione che
mi fu comunicata da persona molto erudita, ed è questa: che potrà po-
tersi, che il Carracci, o per voglia sua, o d'altri, congiungesse quelle
due immagini per alludere al celebre Ottavio Farnese nipote di
Paolo III. il qual Ottavio nacque nell' Ottobre del 1524, mese in
cui dominava quel segno, per avere sposato Marythesia d' Austria,
potrebbe aver voluto significar questa seconda per il segno zodiacale
dell'aquila, - L'Ercole che porta il globo esiste ora in Napoli,
e in questa Biblioteca Vaticana il Gesso; nel quale ho veduto che
il segno dello Scorpione viene traversato dallo serpente, dopo il quale
viene l'aquila.

Tradisca i pens. della mia d'innanzi firm e riconosca
Suo ott. M. Canova
Antonio Canova

Roma 9 Maggio 1821

Al Monsieur
Monsieur John Henning
19 Queen's Row Pentonville
Canova in Londres

AD

NAPOLEON AND CANOVA.

E I G H T
CONVERSATIONS

HELD AT THE
CHATEAU OF THE TUILERIES,
IN
1810.

L O N D O N:
PRINTED FOR TREUTTET AND WURTZ, TREUTTET, JUN.
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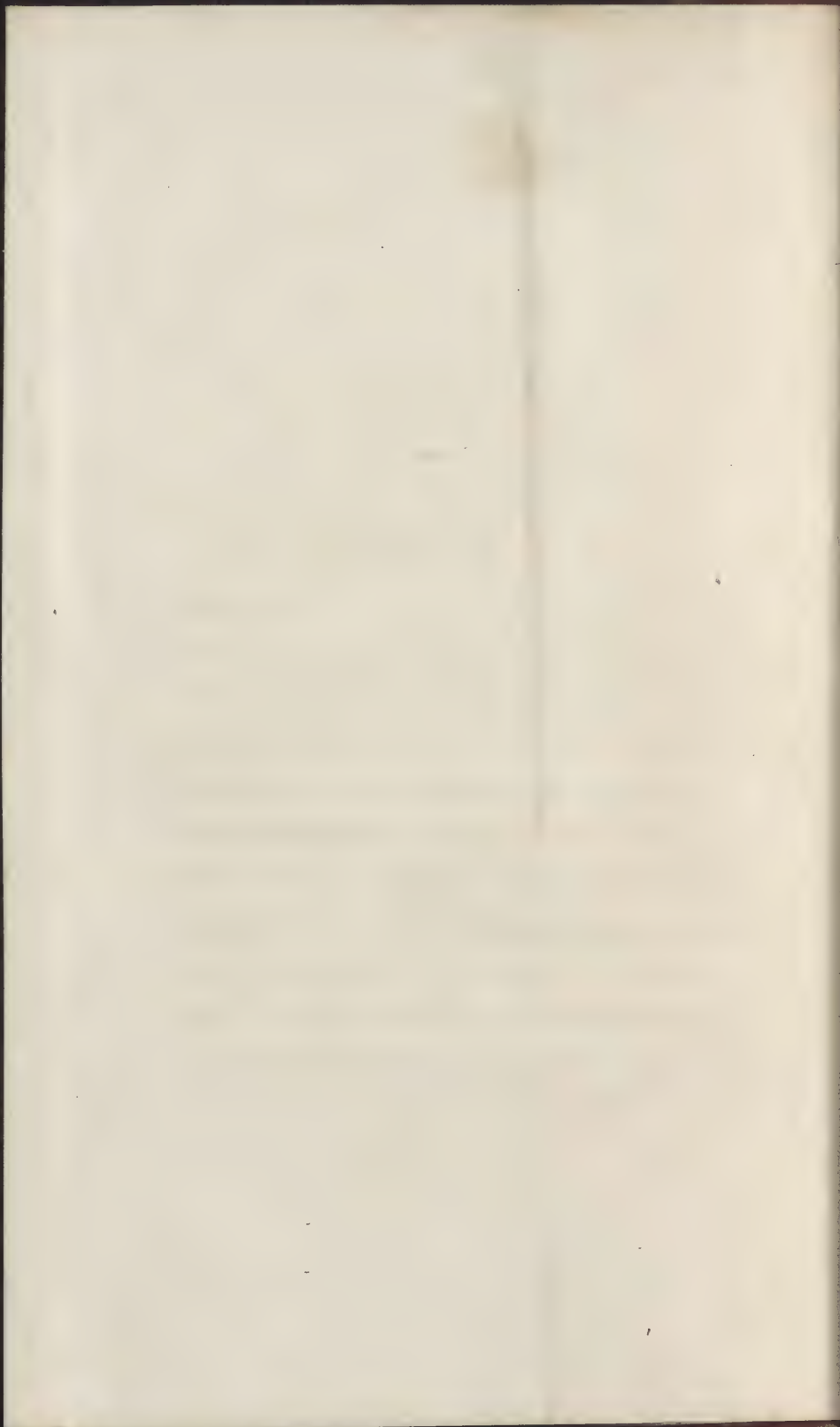
1825.

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N O T I C E.

The following pages have created so lively an interest on the Continent as to render unnecessary any apology for introducing them to the public in an English form. For the convenience of the purchasers of the Napoleon Memoirs, to which these Conversations may be considered as a valuable appendix, they have been printed uniformly with them. For the interesting autograph of Canova, which embellishes the Work, the Editor is indebted to Mr. Henning, whose celebrity as an artist procured him the unqualified esteem of the great Canova.



P R E F A C E
OF
THE FRENCH EDITOR.

THE following Conversations between the greatest of warriors and the most celebrated artist of our times, appear to me to possess peculiar interest. It is not Napoleon, the exile of St. Helena, speaking with secretaries, generals, and physicians, and reviewing his past thoughts and actions, but a powerful prince, familiarly conversing with an artist, whose celebrity was, or at least will be, equal to his own.

The permanent, or at least temporary, residence of Canova, at Paris, had long been a desideratum with its inhabitants; and in the month of September, 1809, the Duchess of Bracciano, who was in that capital, communicated this wish to her husband in Italy, adding that *Madame Mère* would receive that great artist in her palace with the most flattering distinction and respect. Whilst, therefore, Canova was engaged upon his statue of Venus, he received, in the name of Napoleon, who was then in Holland, a formal invitation to proceed to Paris. Great hopes were held out to him should he consent. Canova politely excused himself, alleging, among other reasons, that were he required to change his mode of life, he should be lost both to himself and his art, for which alone he lived. He begged Cardinal Fesch and the Chevalier Denon to prevent his being further pressed upon the subject; but, at length,

he determined upon going himself to inform the Emperor of his sentiments. His arrival at Paris was announced in great form. On the 11th of October, 1810, he arrived at Fontainebleau, and the next day was presented to Napoleon. The Emperor, says the Abbé Missirini, the biographer of the Italian Phidias, at this time attracted the attention of all Europe; and every circumstance connected with that extraordinary man excited universal admiration. Canova, therefore, having had several very familiar conversations with him, determined upon taking notes of them, under the impression that one day they might be of some importance; he likewise hoped, as he himself said, that they would present a proof of his firmness, since, being neither seduced by flattering offers, nor alarmed by danger, he boldly declared the truth to so powerful a monarch.

These conversations have been extracted from Canova's MSS. and are now presented to the public translated into French, by way of supplement to the works already published in France upon Napoleon.

AVANT-PROPOS.

VOICI des Entretiens qui m'ont paru assez curieux et piquans, entre le plus grand des guerriers et le premier des artistes de notre siècle. Ce n'est pas Napoléon enseveli dans une île de l'Atlantique, qui parle avec des secrétaires, des généraux et des médecins, passant en revue ses exploits et ses pensées ; mais un prince puissant qui s'entretient familièrement avec un artiste dont la renommée était ou devait être égale à la sienne.

Depuis long-temps on désirait à Paris que Canova vînt s'y fixer, ou au moins qu'il y séjournât quelque temps. Dès le mois de Septembre 1809, la duchesse de Bracciano, se trouvant dans cette capitale, en écrivit à son époux en Italie, ajoutant que *Madame Mère* accueillerait bien volontiers dans son palais ce grand artiste. Pendant que celui-ci travaillait à sa Vénus, il reçut une invitation formelle de se rendre à Paris, par l'intendant de la maison impériale, de la part de Napoléon, qui se trouvait alors en Hollande. On lui faisait concevoir de grandes espérances dans le cas où il y consentirait. Canova s'excusa poliment, alléguant entre autres raisons, que s'il devait changer son système de vie, il mourrait à lui-même et à son art, pour lequel seul il respirait. Il pria le cardinal Fesch et le chevalier Denon de faire en sorte qu'on n'insistât pas ultérieurement. Mais enfin il résolut d'aller lui-même ex-

poser ses sentimens à l'Empereur. Son arrivée à Paris fut annoncée solennellement. Le 11 du mois d'Octobre 1810 il arriva à Fontainebleau, et le lendemain il fut présenté à Napoléon. L'Empereur, dit l'abbé Missirini, biographe du Phidias Italien, attirait dans ce temps-là l'attention de toute l'Europe ; et tout ce qui avait rapport à cet homme extraordinaire excitait l'admiration universelle. C'est pourquoi Canova, ayant eu avec lui des entretiens très familiers, songea à en prendre note, s'imaginant que peut-être auraient-ils dans la suite quelque importance ; il espéra aussi, comme il le dit lui-même, qu'ils offriraient une preuve de sa fermeté, puisque, n'étant ni séduit par des offres avantageuses, ni effrayé par les dangers, il ne s'abstint pas de découvrir la vérité en face d'un souverain si puissant.

Ces entretiens ont été extraits des ma-

nuscrits où Canova les avait consignés. Nous les offrons au public, traduits en Français, afin qu'on puisse les joindre à tout ce qu'on a publié en France sur Napoléon.

NAPOLEON AND CANOVA.

EIGHT CONVERSATIONS

HELD AT THE
CHATEAU OF THE TUILERIES,
IN 1810.

I.

*Canova's Introduction—His Patriotism—
The Farnese Hercules—Excavations at
Rome—The Pope—The Borghese Fa-
mily—Napoleon's Statue—The Sublime
in Sculpture—Statue of General Dessaix
—The Forum of Trajan and the Appian
Way—The Florentines and Venetians—
Ghiberti—The Gates of St. John.*

ON the 12th of October, about noon, Mar-
shal Duroc presented me to Napoleon. The

emperor had just sat down to breakfast, and, with the exception of the empress, was alone. “ You have grown rather “ thinner, M. Canova,” were the first words he said to me. I replied, that it was the natural effect of my incessant application ; after which I respectfully thanked him for the honour he had conferred on me by requiring my attendance, for the purpose of employing me professionally, and of learning my opinions upon the fine arts ; I did not, however, conceal, that it was impossible for me to fix my residence out of Rome, the reasons for which I explained to him.

“ Paris,” said he, “ is the capital of the “ world—you must remain here: we shall “ make much of you.”—“ Sire, you may “ command me, but if it please your Ma- “ jesty that my life should be devoted to “ your service, permit me, Sire, to return

“ to Rome, after having completed the
 “ object of my visit here.” At these words
 he smiled, and said, “ In Paris you will
 “ be in your element; for here are all the
 “ chef-d’œuvres of art, the *Farnese Her-*
 “ *cules* alone excepted; but we shall soon
 “ have that too.”—“ May it please your
 “ Majesty,” replied I, “ to leave Italy, at
 “ least, something. These monuments of
 “ antiquity are inseparably connected with
 “ many others, which it would be impos-
 “ sible to remove, either from Rome or
 “ Naples.”—“ Italy can indemnify herself
 “ by excavations,” said he; “ I shall order
 “ some to be commenced at Rome. Pray
 “ has the Pope been at much expense in
 “ excavations?”

I informed him, that, owing to the want
 of funds, his Holiness had, at present, ex-
 pended but little upon this object; but that
 he was of a generous disposition, and was

favourably inclined towards all great undertakings; and that, thanks to his ardent love for science, and to a well-regulated economy, he had succeeded in forming a new Museum."

Napoleon here interrupted me by asking if the *Borghese* family had been at much expense in excavations; to which I replied that they had not, as they generally undertook them in conjunction with other persons, whose shares they afterwards purchased. I availed myself of this opportunity to convince him, that the people of Rome possessed a sacred right over all the monuments of antiquity which might be discovered on their territory; this being a species of property inherent in the soil, so that neither the noble families of Rome, nor even the Pope himself, had a right to remove these precious remains from Rome, to which city they belonged, as the inhe-

ritance of their ancestors, and the reward of their victories. “ The *Borghese* marbles,” said he, “ cost me fourteen millions. How much does the Pope annually expend upon the fine arts? A hundred thousand crowns ?”—“ Not so much ; for he is extremely poor.”—“ Great things, then, may be done with much less ?”—“ Certainly.”

The conversation then turned upon the colossal statue of Napoleon, executed by me, and he seemed to wish that it had been in the modern dress. “ Omnipotence itself,” replied I, “ would have failed, had it attempted to represent your Majesty as I now see you, with small clothes, boots, &c. in short, in the French costume. In statuary, as in all the other arts, we have our sublime style ; the sculptor’s sublimity is nakedness, and a kind of drapery peculiar to our art.” I then

quoted to him several examples from the poets and the ancient monuments. The Emperor appeared convinced by them: happening, however, to speak of the other equestrian statue which I was about to model for him, and knowing that it was with drapery, Napoleon said to me, "And why is not this also represented naked?" — "It must be in the heroic costume," replied I; "nor is it correct that it should be naked in the act in which your Majesty is represented, that of a general on horseback, at the head of his army." I added, that such was the custom of the ancients, and still so that of the moderns; that the ancient kings of France in their equestrian statues had always been so represented, as was likewise that of Joseph II. at Vienna. "Have you seen," said he, "the bronze statue of General Dessaix? It appears to be very ill executed; his sash is ridiculous."

I was about to answer; but he resumed,
 “ Is my statue a full length?”—“ It is,
 “ Sire, and is already cast very success-
 “ fully : an engraving has also been exe-
 “ cuted from it, and the artist wishes to
 “ have the honour of dedicating his work
 “ to your Majesty. He is an excellent
 “ young man, and your magnificence is in-
 “ terested in encouraging young artists,
 “ during a period so unpropitious to them.”
 —“ I wish to visit Rome,” said he. I an-
 swered, “ That country well deserves to be
 “ seen by your Majesty, who will find in it
 “ many objects capable of warming your
 “ imagination, such as the Capitol, the
 “ *Forum* of Trajan, the Sacred Way, the co-
 “ lumns, triumphal arches,” &c. &c. I then
 described to him some magnificent monu-
 ments, particularly the Appian Way, from
 Rome to Brindisi, both sides of which, like
 the other consular roads, are bordered with
 tombs. “ What is there astonishing in this,”

said he, "the Romans were masters of the
 " world?"—"It was not only the power,"
 rejoined I, "but Italian genius and our
 " love of the sublime, which produced so
 " many magnificent works. Let your Ma-
 " jesty be pleased to reflect upon what the
 " Florentines alone have done, who pos-
 " sessed but a very straitened territory,—
 " what also the Venetians. The Florentines
 " had the courage to raise their wonder-
 " ful cathedral by an additional tax of
 " one penny in the pound upon the ma-
 " nufacture of woollen stuffs;* and this
 " alone was found sufficient for the erec-
 " tion of an edifice, the expenses of which
 " would be too much for the treasury of
 " any modern power. They also caused
 " the gates of St. John to be executed in

* As a parallel instance, Canova might also have
 quoted St. Paul's Cathedral, the expense of which
 building was defrayed by an additional tax upon
 coals.—TRANS.

“ bronze, by Ghiberti, at the expense of
“ forty thousand sequins, equivalent in the
“ present day to several millions of francs.
“ Let your Majesty also consider their in-
“ dustry, and at the same time their pub-
“ lic spirit.”

Such was the first conversation, after which I received the necessary orders for commencing the statue of the Empress.

II.

*Insalubrity of Rome—Tacitus—Desolation
and deserted State of Rome—Emigrations
—Little Encouragement given to Artists
—Religion a Friend to the Arts—Sta-
tues of the Olympian Jove and Minerva
—The Church of St. Mark at Venice—
The Cathedrals of Pisa and Orvieto—
The Protestants.*

ON the 15th of October I began my labours, and continued during several sittings, in which I had always an opportunity of speaking with the emperor upon different subjects, as I saw him constantly at his breakfast-hour, a time in which he was totally unoccupied.

He began by asking me, “ If the air of

“ Rome was as bad and unhealthy in the
 “ time of the ancients as in our days ? ”
 — “ It appears to have been so,” I replied,
 “ according to the historians. The ancients,
 “ it is clear, took precautions against the
 “ unwholesome air by means of woods and
 “ forests, which they called sacred ; be-
 “ sides, the immense population which
 “ covered the country diminished the fa-
 “ tal effects of this scourge. I remember
 “ to have read in Tacitus, that upon the
 “ return of the troops of Vitellius from Ger-
 “ many, they fell ill, from having slept on
 “ the Vatican Mount.” The Emperor imme-
 diately rang for his librarian to bring him
 Tacitus. We could not meet with the pas-
 sage, but I sent it him shortly afterwards. He
 resumed by telling me, that soldiers, who
 arrived at Rome from distant countries
 always fell ill during the first year ; but that
 they afterwards recovered their health. In
 speaking of Rome, I described to him the

desolation of that city ; I showed him that this country could not recover itself without the assistance of some great power ; that after Rome had lost the Pope, all the foreign ministers, forty cardinals, and more than two hundred prelates, besides a great number of canons and other ecclesiastics, had already set off ; and that the consequence of this emigration would be, that grass would grow in the streets. I observed to him, that a desire for his glory emboldened me to speak candidly to him, and to supplicate him to remedy the want of so much treasure that formerly flowed into Rome from all parts, but which now no longer entered it. “ This treasure was not “ very considerable latterly,” said he, “ and “ the cultivation of cotton must be productive of some profit.” — “ But very “ little,” returned I ; “ Lucien alone has “ made a few experiments in its culture : “ besides, Rome is in want of every thing,

“ and your Majesty’s protection is all that
“ is now left it.”—“ We will make it the
“ capital of Italy,” said he, smiling, “ and
“ we will also join Naples with it. Well,
“ what do you say? will that please you?”
—“ The arts,” added I, “ would also be
“ productive of great prosperity to Rome;
“ but the arts at present languish; and,
“ with the exception of your Majesty and
“ the imperial family, who have given
“ some commissions, artists are now with-
“ out employment. Religion, which at one
“ time so much contributed to the pros-
“ perity of the arts, has nearly become
“ lukewarm and indifferent.” Here I prov-
ed, by examples drawn from the Egyptians,
Greeks, and Romans, that religion alone
had caused the arts to flourish; that vast
sums had been employed in the construc-
tion of the Parthenon, in the statues of the

Olympian Jove, Minerva, &c. &c.; that not only conquerors, but even courtezans, offered their statues to the gods; that the Romans had acted in the same manner; that they had impressed the seal of religion upon all their works, in order to throw around them greater awe and respect; and I cited, as examples, their courts, statues, theatres, &c. &c. I afterwards mentioned the masterpieces of modern art, executed from religious motives. The church of St. Marc, at Venice—the cathedrals of Pisa and Orvieto, the Campo Santo of Pisa, and numberless other wonders, filled with statuary and beautiful paintings. My deduction was, that every religion has been favourable to the arts, and the Roman Catholic much more than any other;—a chapel and a simple cross suffice for the Protestant, and consequently afford no encouragement to the

arts. Then the Emperor, turning to Maria Louisa, said, " He is right, religion always promotes the arts, and the Protestants can produce nothing great."

III.

Napoleon's Patience—Not naturally tyrannical—Pope Pius VII.—Napoleon's Quarrel with him—Meddling Disposition of the Priests—Gregory VII.—The Colonnas and the Orsini—Julius II. and Leo X.—Machiavelli—Romulus—Numa—Napoleon's Admiration of the Romans—Cæsar—Titus—Trajan—Marcus Aurelius—The Distress of Rome—Cause of the Dispute between Napoleon and the Pope—Excommunication—Cæsar's Piety.

ANOTHER day our conversation fell upon a more delicate subject, namely, the sovereign Pontiff, the Popes, and their Government. Upon this occasion, I was bold enough to speak with much severity, nor was I a little surprised that Napoleon listen-

ed patiently to me; in fact, it appeared to me that he was not naturally tyrannical, but had been spoilt by flatterers, and by those who concealed the truth from him.

The conversation falling upon my benefactor, Pius VII., I thought it my duty to say: "Why does not your Majesty become
 " reconciled, in some degree, with the
 " Pope?"—"Because priests wish to com-
 " mand every where," replied he; "be-
 " cause they wish to meddle with every
 " thing, and be masters of every thing, like
 " Gregory VII."—"It seems to me that,
 " at present, there is no reason to appre-
 " hend this, since your Majesty's power is
 " every where supreme."—"The Popes,"
 added he, "have always hindered the re-
 " suscitation of the Italian nation, even
 " when they were not the absolute masters
 " of Rome; and this they effected by
 " means of the factions of the Colonnas and

“ the Orsini.”—“ Truly,” rejoined I, “ if
 “ the Popes had had your Majesty’s cou-
 “ rage, they might have found many fa-
 “ vourable opportunities of making them-
 “ selves masters of all Italy.”—“ As to
 “ that, this is what is wanted,” cried he,
 placing his hand on his sword; “ this is
 “ the one thing needful.”—“ That is true,”
 replied I: “ we have seen, that if Alex-
 “ ander VI. had lived, Duke Valentino
 “ would have commenced the conquest of
 “ Italy. The attempts of this kind made
 “ by Julian II. and Leo X. were, likewise,
 “ not unsuccessful; but in general the
 “ Popes were elected at too advanced an
 “ age, and if one of them was enterprising,
 “ the succeeding one, perhaps, was mild
 “ and pacific.”—“ It is the sword that is
 “ wanted.”—“ Not the sword only,” re-
 plied I, “ but also the pastoral staff. Ma-
 “ chiavelli himself dared not to decide
 “ which of the two had more contributed

“ to the aggrandisement of Rome, the arms
 “ of Romulus or the religion of Numa. So
 “ true it is, that these two means should
 “ be employed simultaneously. If the Pon-
 “ tiffs did not always signalize themselves
 “ by military exploits, they, however, per-
 “ formed such brilliant actions, as always
 “ to excite the admiration of the world.”

“ What a great people were the Romans!”
 cried he.—“ So they were, undoubtedly,
 “ till the second Punic War,” added I.—
 “ Cæsar, Cæsar, was the great man,” he
 continued; “ not Cæsar only, but some of
 “ the succeeding Emperors, such as Titus,
 “ Trajan, Marcus Aurelius. . . . The Ro-
 “ mans were always great,” said he, “ till
 “ the time of Constantine. The Popes
 “ were wrong in fomenting discord in
 “ Italy; and in always being the first to
 “ call in the French and Germans. They
 “ were not capable of being soldiers them-

“ selves, and they have lost much.”—
 “ Since it is so,” rejoined I, “ your Majesty
 “ will not permit our evils to increase; but
 “ I can assure your Majesty, that unless
 “ you come to Rome’s assistance, this
 “ city will become what it was when the
 “ Popes transferred the Papal seat to
 “ Avignon. Before that time, it had im-
 “ mense supplies of water and many foun-
 “ tains; but the aqueducts fell into ruins,
 “ and the water of the Tiber was sold in
 “ the streets: the city was a desert.” At
 these words he appeared affected, and then
 said with much vivacity, “ Obstacles are
 “ thrown in my way: and this, too, when
 “ I am master of France, Italy, and three-
 “ fourths of Germany; I am the successor
 “ of Charlemagne. If the present Pope
 “ were like his predecessor of that day,
 “ all might be arranged. And have not
 “ your Venetians also quarrelled with him?”
 —“ Not in the same manner as your Ma-

“ jesty,” replied I. “ You are so great,
 “ Sire, that you could easily grant the
 “ Pontiff some spot in which his inde-
 “ pendence might be conspicuous, and in
 “ which he could have the free exercise of
 “ his ministry.”

“ What !” said he, “ do I not allow him
 “ to do every thing he pleases, so long
 “ as he does not interfere in temporal
 “ concerns ?”—“ Yes, but your ministers
 “ do not follow your example. As soon
 “ as the Pope publishes any order which
 “ is displeasing to the French Govern-
 “ ment, it is immediately annulled.”—
 “ How,” replied he, “ do I not permit the
 “ bishops to govern the church as they
 “ think fit ? Is there no religion here ?
 “ Who restored the altars ? Who pro-
 “ tected the clergy ?”—“ If your Ma-
 “ jesty,” said I, “ had pious subjects, they
 “ would be still more attached and sub-

“ missive to your person.” — “ This is what
 “ I desire,” replied he ; “ but the Pope is
 “ German all over ;” and so saying this, he
 looked at the Empress, who said, “ I can
 “ assure you, that when I was in Germany,
 “ the Pope was said to be wholly French.” --
 “ He would not,” added Napoleon, “ drive
 “ either the Russians or the English from
 “ his dominions. That is the cause of our
 “ misunderstanding.”

Then I took the liberty of saying, that I
 had read the papers and justificative pieces
 printed by the Pope, together with the
 official documents, and that he appeared to
 me to have reason on his side. At this in-
 stant Marshal Duroc entered ; but Napoleon,
 interrupting me, went on — “ He has even
 “ pretended to excommunicate me. Is he
 “ not aware that we might become the same
 “ as the English and the Russians ?” — “ I
 “ humbly crave your Majesty’s pardon ;

“ but the zeal which animates me, inspires
 “ me with confidence to speak with free-
 “ dom: you must allow, Sire, such a schism
 “ is contrary to your interests. I sincerely
 “ pray, that Heaven may grant you a long
 “ life; but when misfortune arrives, it is
 “ to be feared that some ambitious person
 “ might suddenly appear, who, for his own
 “ views, embracing those of the Pope, might
 “ occasion great disturbances in the state.
 “ In a short time, Sire, you will be a
 “ father; you should think of fixing things
 “ upon a solid basis. I earnestly entreat
 “ your Majesty to effect, in some shape or
 “ other, a reconciliation with the Pope.”

“ You are then anxious to see us recon-
 “ ciled,—so am I too; but recollect what
 “ the Romans were before they had
 “ Popes.”—“ Let your Majesty also re-
 “ flect, how religious the Romans were
 “ when they were great. That Cæsar,

“ who is so much celebrated, ascended on
“ his knees the steps of the Capitol to ap-
“ proach the Temple of Jupiter. Armies
“ never engaged unless the religious au-
“ spices were favourable ; and if a battle
“ were fought, or even gained without them,
“ the general was punished. Marcellus’
“ zeal for sacred things is well known ; also
“ how a consul was condemned for having
“ taken off the tiles from the temple of
“ Jupiter, in Greece. In God’s name, I
“ intreat your Majesty to protect religion
“ and its chief, and to preserve the beau-
“ tiful temples of Italy and Rome. It is
“ far more delightful to be the object of
“ affection than that of fear.”—“ That is
“ what I wish,” said he, breaking off the
conversation.

IV.

Venice—Architects—Soli—Palladio, his Illustrations of Cæsar's Commentaries—Canova pleads for Venice—Machiavelli's Opinion of Venice—His Letter to Vettore Vettorito—The Arms of Venice—The Jealousy of the Venetians—Napoleon's Advice to the Directory.

UPON another occasion, Venice, its artists and monuments, were the subject of conversation; and he said, that he had met with excellent geographical maps in Italy. He inquired of me the names of the architects, and I mentioned the principal ones, giving to each the praise he merited. I then spoke to him of the architect Soli, who was superintending the new edifices, and who had prevented the destruc-

tion of the beautiful edifices, as had been proposed. I also mentioned Palladio, and eulogized the engraved plates with which he had enriched Cæsar's Commentaries. I also brought to his remembrance the superb edifices built by him throughout the Venetian state. My recommendation of Venice was so warm, that the emotion I felt made my eyes swim with tears,* and I said to him, "I assure your Majesty, that the Venetians are a worthy people."—"You speak the truth, I believe them to be so."—"But they are not happy, Sire; commerce is proscribed—the taxes are heavy; in some departments people cannot sustain life: this is the case with Passeriano, in favour of which a celebrated pamphlet has been published, which perhaps your Majesty has seen."—"No," said he. I summoned courage, and added:

* Canova was a Venetian.

“ I have a copy, which I will present to your Majesty, if it be your pleasure.” I immediately opened my portfolio, and put the pamphlet into his hands.

Napoleon, looking at the paper, said, “ It is short ;” and, interrupting his breakfast, read it ; after which, “ I will speak to Aldini about it,” said he. He placed it by his side, and took it away with him when he left the room. Resuming our conversation upon Venice, I expatiated upon the form and spirit of its government, and observed to him, that according to Machiavelli’s opinion, it did not appear possible to me that Venice could ever fall. This great politician, going in quality of the minister from Florence to the emperor of Germany, wrote thus to *Vettore Vettorito* : “ *My dear Friend—it appears to me, that the Venetians are disposed to take the right road, as they have described Saint*

“ *Marc with the sword ; and truly the book is not sufficient.*” * I added, that the Venetians, fearing lest a Cæsar might arise among them, had never consented to having a native general on terra firma ; † and that, if they had had one, without, however, ever enlarging the term of his functions, they would have performed exploits far more brilliant.

“ It is true,” replied the emperor, “ the prolongation of command is a very dan-

* The Lion was the emblem of Venice, and as it was, at the same time, one of the four animals which, according to the Apocalypse, were the symbols of the Evangelists, it held in its raised paw the Gospel of Saint Mark ; but according to this letter from Machiavelli, the Venetians had just changed the book into a sword.

† By *Terra Firma*, the Venetians called every state subjected to their dominion, as Padua, Verona, Brescia, &c. &c. in order to distinguish them from Venice, surrounded by the sea, and from the other islands subjected to its empire.

“gerous thing ; I myself told the Direc-
“tory, that if they wished continually for
“war, they would at last find a person who
“would dictate to them.”

V.

The Florentines—The Monuments of Alfieri, Michael Angelo, Machiavelli, and Galileo — The Countess of Albany — Church of Santa Croce—Its dilapidated State—The Cathedral of Florence—Origin of Napoleon's Family—The President Alessandri—The Florentine Academy.

ANOTHER time the conversation turned upon the Florentines, occasioned by his asking me where I had placed Alfieri's monument. "In the church of *Santa Croce*," replied I; "where are also those of Michael Angelo and Machiavelli."—"Who paid for it?"—"The Countess of Albany."—"Who paid for Machiavelli's monument?"—"I believe it was raised by subscription."—"And that of Gali-

“leo?”—“His relations, if I am not mis-
 “taken. The church of Santa Croce,”
 continued I, “is in a wretched condition ;
 “the rain penetrates through the roof, and
 “a thorough repair is necessary. Your
 “Majesty’s glory is interested in the pre-
 “servation of these fine monuments ; if the
 “government takes the revenues, it is but
 “just to leave the donations for the neces-
 “sary repairs of the building. It is the
 “same with the cathedral of Florence ;
 “dilapidations have already commenced,
 “for want of funds to keep it in order. As
 “we are upon the subject of churches, the
 “repositories of interesting works of art,
 “I beg to say, that I am charged to sup-
 “plicate your Majesty, that you will not
 “permit the monuments of art to be sold
 “to the Jews.”—“How sold?” cried he :
 “all that is worth any thing shall be
 “brought here.”

“ May it graciously please your Ma-
 “ jesty to leave Florence in possession of
 “ all its monuments, which are a neces-
 “ sary accompaniment to the works in
 “ *fresco*, which it is impossible to remove.
 “ It would even be advisable, that the pre-
 “ sident of the academy of Florence might
 “ be at liberty to take the necessary mea-
 “ sures for the preservation of these beau-
 “ tiful specimens, both of architecture and
 “ of *fresco*.”—“ I am very willing,” said
 he.—“ It will be glorious for your Ma-
 “ jesty ; the more so, as I have heard it
 “ reported, that your Majesty’s family is
 “ Florentine.” At these words, the Em-
 press turned round and said, “ You are
 “ not a Corsican then ?”—“ Yes,” replied
 he, “ but of Florentine origin.”* I then

* It is true, that in the most remote times, the
 family of Bonaparte was known at Florence ; but it
 appears that, in the course of time, and political

added, "that the president of the academy
 " of Florence, who interested himself with
 " so much zeal in the preservation of the
 " monuments, was the senator Alessandri,
 " descended from one of the most illustri-
 " ous families of Florence, one of whose
 " daughters had formerly been married to
 " a branch of the Bonaparte family. Thus
 " you are an Italian, Sire, and we pride
 " ourselves upon it."--"I am so, certainly,"
 replied he. I thus immediately interested
 him in the Academy of Florence.

changes, one branch of it passed to San Miniato, a
 small town between Florence and Pisa, and that
 this branch resided there in latter times; other
 branches also settled at Sarzana, in Genovefatto,
 and at Ajaccio, in the island of Corsica.

VI.

Academy of St. Luke at Rome--Crescentini's Pension—Napoleon makes a Decree in Favour of the Academy of St. Luke—Italian Painters—Cammuccini, Landi, Benvenuti, Appiani, and Bossi—Canova's Opinion of the new Works at Paris—The Bronze Column--Public Roads—Intended Road from Parma to the Gulf of La Spezia.

ANOTHER day also, I spoke to him for a considerable time in favour of the Academy of St. Luke, at Rome, which was without a school, revenues, or resources, representing to him the necessity of organizing it on the plan of that at Milan: I again introduced the subject, observing, " Let your Majesty suppose you

“ are *minus* one musician, or *cantatrice*,
 “ and then endow the Academy of St.
 “ Luke.” This I said, because I knew that
 he had given Crescentini a pension of
 thirty-six thousand francs a year. Finding
 him well disposed, I wrote to M. Menneval,
 the Emperor’s private secretary, to inform
 him, that his Majesty was much inclined
 to favour the arts at Rome, and that he
 had promised a decree, of which I desired
 to be myself the bearer. On the 8th of
 November, M. Menneval forwarded me,
 from the Minister Marescalchi, a letter,
 containing his Majesty’s arrangements for
 the Roman Academy.

Speaking of the Academy and the Roman
 artists, the Emperor said, “ Italy is ill pro-
 “ vided with painters; we have much bet-
 “ ter ones in France.” I replied, “ That it
 “ was some years since I had seen the pro-
 “ ductions of the French artists, and that

“ therefore I could draw no comparison, but
 “ notwithstanding, we had some very dis-
 “ tinguished men: Cammuccini and Landi,
 “ at Rome; Benvenuti, at Florence; Ap-
 “ piani and Bossi, at Milan; were all very
 “ eminent painters.” He said, that the
 French were deficient in colouring; but
 that they surpassed the Italians in design.
 I did not fail to observe, that ours also were
 excellent designers; that leaving Cammuc-
 cini out of the question, whose great merit is
 acknowledged, Bossi had produced some
 delightful outlines, and Appiani had painted
in fresco the saloon of his Majesty’s palace
 at Milan, in a style of excellence which, in
 my opinion, could not be surpassed. “ You
 “ are right, as to fresco; but not as to oil,”
 answered he. I again undertook the de-
 fence of our artists, and observed, “ That
 “ he should remember that the French
 “ artists received far greater encourage-
 “ ment; that they were far more nume-

“ rous ; and that if reckoned, their number would be found to exceed that of all the artists in the rest of Europe.”

He questioned me about the saloon, and the other architectural works which were executing in Paris ; and I eulogized in the manner they deserved, the French artists and their productions. “ Have you seen the bronze column ? ” — “ It strikes me as very fine, Sire. ” — “ I do not like those eagles at the corners. ” — “ The same ornament, however, is found on the Trajan column, of which this is an imitation. ”

“ Will the arch constructing in the Wood de Boulogne be a fine one ? ” — “ Particularly so. There are so many of your Majesty’s works which are truly worthy of the ancient Romans, especially the magnificent roads. ” . . . “ Next year, ”

said he, “the *Cornice* road will be completed, by which you may travel from Paris to Genoa without crossing the snow. I shall make another from Parma to the Gulf of La Spezia, where I intend forming a large harbour.”—“These are grand projects,” replied I, “worthy of your Majesty’s vast genius; but the preservation of the fine productions of the ancients should not be forgotten.”

VII.

Canova finishes the Empress's Bust—Its great Resemblance—The Empress's Curiosity—Her Praise of the Statue of the Princess Leopoldina Lieuwinstein.

ON the 4th of November, in the evening, I went to the Empress, with her bust in plaister; she placed herself in the same attitude, in order to enable the ladies, who were playing with her, to form a better judgement; and they were all unanimous as to the resemblance. Napoleon was not there. The Empress, therefore, said she would show it him the next morning at breakfast. She then added, "Is it, indeed, true, M. Canova, that you will not remain here?"—"I wish to return immediately to Rome," answered I, "in order

“ that your Majesty upon your arrival,
“ which I hope will not be long, may
“ find the model of your full-length statue
“ complete.” Here the Empress put many
questions to me about the manner of making the cast, and of executing it in stone. My statue of the Princess Leopoldina Löwenstein was spoken of, and the Empress observed, “ It was, indeed there, that ideal
“ beauty was to be found.”

VIII.

Napoleon's Approbation of the Bust—The Empress represented as Concord—Canova's Advice to Maria Louisa—Napoleon's Saying of Women—Canova's Reasons for not marrying—Canova again requests Permission to return to Rome—Napoleon grants it him.

SOME days afterwards, the Emperor saw the bust: he placed the Empress in the attitude, made her smile, and was much pleased with my work. I told him that the cheerful expression was more consonant with the character of Concord, which I had chosen for the Empress, it being to her that we were indebted for the peace.

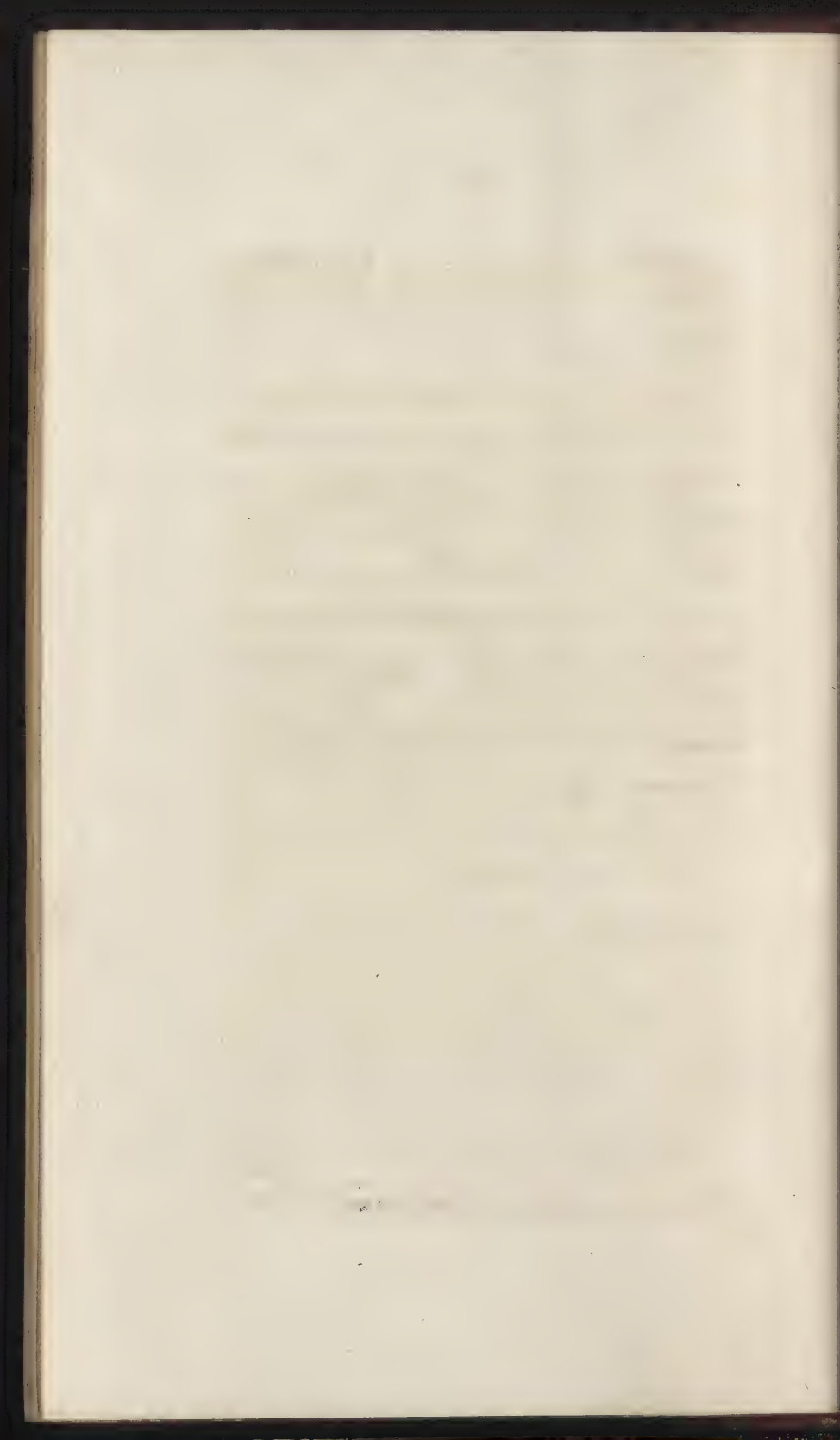
The Empress had a slight cold, and I took

the liberty of telling her, that she appeared to me to take but little care of her health ; that she went a-hunting in an open carriage, which was dangerous, particularly as she was in the family-way.

“ You see what she is,” said Napoleon :
 “ every one is astonished at it ; but wo-
 “ men, (striking his forehead with the end
 “ of his finger,) women will have their own
 “ way. Listen, she now insists upon going
 “ to Cherbourg, which is at so great a
 “ distance ; for my part, I am always tell-
 “ ing her to take care of herself. Are you
 “ married ?”—“ No, Sire,” replied I: “ I
 “ have been often on the point of marriage,
 “ but several circumstances have preserved
 “ me my freedom ; add to which, the fear
 “ of not meeting with a woman who would
 “ love as I should have loved, deterred
 “ me from altering my condition, that I
 “ might be more at liberty to devote myself

“ completely to my art.”—“ Ah! woman, woman!” said Napoleon, smiling and continuing to eat.

As I had several times expressed to him my wish to return to Rome, after having modelled the bust of the Empress, repeating that I wished nothing for myself, it appeared to me that my refusals displeased the Emperor; for, upon my again mentioning the circumstance of my departure, he dismissed me by saying, “ Go then, since you will have it so.”



NAPOLÉON ET CANOVA.

HUIT ENTRETIENS

TENUS AU

CHATEAU DES TUILERIES,

EN 1810.

I.

Canova présenté à Napoléon—Son Patriotisme—De l'Hercule de Farnèse—Excavations faites à Rome—Du Pape—De la Famille de Borghèses—Statue de Napoléon—Du sublime de la Sculpture—Statue du General Dessaix—Du Forum de Trajan et de la Voie Appienne—Des Florentins et des Vénitiens—Ghiberti—Des Portes de St. Jean.

LE 12 Octobre, vers midi, le maréchal Duroc me présenta à Napoléon. L'Empe-

reur commençait son déjeuner ; aucune autre personne que l'Impératrice n'y était présente. “ Vous-êtes un peu maigri, M. Canova,” fut la première parole qu'il m'adressa. Je lui répondis que c'était l'effet de mes travaux continuels ; ensuite je le remerciai respectueusement de l'honneur qu'il me faisait de m'appeler auprès de lui pour m'occuper et pour dire mon sentiment sur les beaux-arts ; mais en même temps je ne lui dissimulai point, dès le premier abord, qu'il ne me serait pas possible de fixer mon domicile hors de Rome, et je lui en exposai les motifs.

“ C'est ici la capitale du monde, dit-il ;
 “ il faut que vous y restiez, et vous y serez
 “ bien.”—“ Sire, vous pouvez disposer de
 “ mon existence ; mais s'il plaît à Votre
 “ Majesté que mes jours soient consacrés
 “ à son service, qu'elle me permette de
 “ m'en retourner à Rome après les travaux

“ pour lesquels je suis venu.” A ces mots,
 il sourit et répondit : “ C’est ici que vous
 “ serez dans votre centre ; car c’est ici que
 “ sont les anciens chefs-d’œuvre de l’art :
 “ il ne manque que l’*Hercule Farnèse* ;
 “ mais nous l’aurons aussi.” — “ Que Votre
 “ Majesté,” repondis-je, “ laisse au moins
 “ quelque chose à l’Italie. Ces anciens mo-
 “ numens forment une chaîne ou collec-
 “ tion avec une infinité d’autres qui ne
 “ peuvent être transportés, ni de Rome ni
 “ de Naples.” — “ L’Italie peut se dédom-
 “ mager par des excavations,” dit-il ; “ je
 “ veux en faire à Rome. Dites-moi ; le
 “ Pape a-t-il fait beaucoup de frais en ex-
 “ cavations ?”

Alors je lui exposai qu’il avait fait peu
 de dépenses pour cet objet, parce qu’en ce
 moment il était pauvre ; mais qu’il avait le
 cœur généreux et disposé aux plus grandes
 entreprises ; que cependant, grâce à son

ardent amour pour les arts et à une sage économie, il était parvenu à former un nouveau Muséum.

Ici il me demanda si la maison *Borghèse* avait fait de grandes dépenses pour ses excavations ; et je lui répondis qu'elles avaient été bien modiques, parce qu'elle les entreprenait ordinairement en société avec d'autres, et qu'ensuite elle achetait leur part. A cette occasion, je lui fis sentir que le peuple Romain avait un droit sacré sur tous les monumens qu'on découvrait dans son territoire ; car c'était comme un produit inhérent au sol, de sorte que ni les familles indigènes, ni le Pape même ne pouvaient envoyer ces monumens hors de Rome, à laquelle ils appartenaient comme héritage de leurs ancêtres, et comme prix de leurs victoires. “ J'ai payé,” ajouta-t-il, “ les statues *Borghèse* quatorze millions “ Combien le Pape dépense-t-il par

“ an pour les beaux-arts ? Cent mille
 “ écus ? ” — “ Pas tant ; car il est extrême-
 “ ment pauvre. ” — “ On peut donc faire de
 “ belles choses avec moins encore ? ” —
 “ Certainement ? ”

Après cela, on vint à parler de la statue colossale qui le représentait, et que j'avais sculptée moi-même ; il sembla qu'il aurait préféré qu'elle eût été vêtue. “ Dieu même, ” répondis-je, “ n'aurait pu faire un bel ouvrage, s'il eût voulu représenter Votre
 “ Majesté comme elle est là, avec une culotte, des bottes, habillée enfin à la Française. Dans la statuaire, comme tous
 “ les autres arts, nous avons notre style sublime ; et le style sublime du sculpteur, c'est le nu, et un genre de draperie qui est propre à notre art. ” Alors je lui citai plusieurs exemples tirés des poètes et des monumens anciens. L'Empereur en parut persuadé ; cependant, venant à parler

de l'autre statue équestre que j'allais modeler pour lui, et sachant qu'elle était drapée, Napoléon me dit : " Et pourquoi ne faites-vous pas celle-ci également nue ? " — " Elle doit être représentée en costume " héroïque," répondis-je, " et il n'est pas " convenable qu'elle soit nue dans l'acte " où je représente Votre Majesté, d'un " général commandant à cheval une armée." J'ajoutai que tel a été l'usage des anciens, et que c'est encore celui des modernes ; que les anciens rois de France, dans leurs statues équestres, étaient représentés de la sorte, et qu'il en était de même de celle de Joseph II. à Vienne. " Avez-vous vu," dit-il, " la statue du général Desaix en bronze ? Elle me paraît mal faite ; sa ceinture est ridicule."

J'allais répondre ; mais il reprit : " Fondez-vous ma statue en pied ?—Elle est déjà fondue, Sire, et avec beaucoup de

“ succès ; on l’a déjà gravée, et le graveur
 “ voudrait avoir l’honneur de la dédier à
 “ Votre Majesté ; c’est une brave jeune
 “ homme, et il est de votre munificence
 “ d’encourager ces jeunes artistes dans des
 “ temps si malheureux pour eux. Je veux
 “ aller à Rome,” dit-il. Alors je lui ré-
 pondis : “ Ce pays mérite bien d’être vu
 “ par Votre Majesté ; elle y trouvera des
 “ sujets capables d’échauffer son imagina-
 “ tion, tels que le Capitole, le *Forum* de
 “ Trajan, la Voie Sacrée, les colonnes, les
 “ arcs de triomphe,” &c. Je lui décrivis
 alors quelques monumens magnifiques, et
 particulièrement la Voie Appienne de Rome
 à Brindisi, toute bordée des deux côtés de
 tombeaux, comme les autres voies consu-
 laires. “ Qu’y a-t-il d’étonnant ? ” dit-il ;
 “ les Romains étaient maîtres du monde.”
 — “ Ce ne fut pas seulement la puissance,”
 répartis-je, “ mais le génie Italien et notre

“ amour pour les grandes choses qui pro-
 “ duisirent tant de magnifiques ouvrages.
 “ Que Votre Majesté réfléchisse à ce qu’
 “ ont fait les seuls Florentins, qui n’avaient
 “ qu’un territoire si borné, à ce qu’ont fait
 “ aussi les Vénitiens. Les Florentins eu-
 “ rent le courage d’élever cette cathédrale
 “ étonnante en augmentant d’un sou seule-
 “ ment par livre l’impôt sur la fabrication
 “ des laines ; et cette augmentation seule
 “ fut suffisante pour procurer les moyens
 “ de construire un édifice dont les frais
 “ excéderaient les facultés de toute puis-
 “ sance moderne. Ils firent aussi exécu-
 “ ter, par Ghiberti, en bronze, les portes
 “ de St.-Jean, pour le prix de quarante
 “ mille sequins, ce qui équivaldrait au-
 “ jourd’hui à plusieurs millions de francs.
 “ Que Votre Majesté considère combien
 “ ils étaient industrieux et en même temps
 “ magnanimes.”

Tel fut le premier entretien, après lequel je pris les ordres nécessaires pour commencer la statue de l'Impératrice.

II.

Insalubrité de Rome—Tacite—Rome dans un Etat d'Abandon—Emigrations—Du peu d'Encouragement qu'on y donne aux Artistes—La Religion est l'Amie des Arts—Statues du Jupiter et de la Minerve d'Olympie—De l'Eglise de St. Marc à Venise—Des Cathédrales de Pise et d'Orvieto—Des Protestans.

LE 15 Octobre, je me mis à l'ouvrage, et continuai pendant plusieurs séances, dans lesquelles j'eus toujours l'occasion de parler avec l'Empereur sur divers sujets, parce que c'était toujours au moment de son déjeuner, et qu'alors il était libre de toute occupation. Je veux faire connaître ici les principaux objets de nos entretiens.

“ L’air de Rome,” me dit-il, “ était-il,
“ comme de nos jours, mauvais et malsain
“ dans les temps anciens ?”—“ Il paraît
“ qu’oui,” répondis-je ; “ d’après les histo-
“ riens, on voit que les anciens prenaient
“ des précautions contre le mauvais air au
“ moyen des forêts et des bois qu’ils ap-
“ pelaient sacrés ; et de plus, la popula-
“ tion immense qui couvrait le pays dimi-
“ nuait les funestes effets de ce fléau. Je
“ me souviens d’avoir lu dans Tacite, à
“ l’occasion du retour des troupes de Vi-
“ tellius, qui revenaient de la Germanie,
“ qu’elles tombèrent malades pour avoir
“ dormi dans le Vatican.” Il sonna aus-
sitôt pour que son bibliothécaire lui appor-
tât Tacite. On ne trouva pas le passage ;
mais moi je le lui envoyai plus tard. Il
continua en me disant que les soldats ve-
nant de pays lointains à Rome, tombaient
toujours malades la première année ; mais

qu'après ils se trouvaient bien. En parlant de Rome, je lui peignis la désolation de cette ville ; je lui exposai que ce pays ne pouvait se relever sans le secours de son grand pouvoir ; qu'après la perte que Rome avait faite du Pape, tous les ministres étrangers, quarante cardinaux et plus de deux cents prélats, outre un grand nombre de chanoines et d'autres ecclésiastiques, étaient déjà partis ; que, par l'effet de cette émigration, l'herbe allait croître dans les rues ; que sa gloire me donnait le droit de lui parler franchement, et de le supplier de subvenir au manque de tant d'argent, qui de tous côtés affluait à Rome, et qui maintenant n'y entrait plus. "Cet argent n'était pas bien considérable dans les derniers temps," me dit-il, "et la culture du coton doit apporter quelques bénéfices." — "Bien minces," lui répondis-je ; "Lucien lui seul a fait quelques essais de cette

“ culture ; d’ailleurs, Rome manque de
“ tout, et il ne lui reste que la protection
“ de Votre Majesté.”—“ Nous en ferons
“ la capitale de l’Italie,” dit-il en souriant,
“ et nous y joindrons encore Naples. Qu’
“ en dites-vous ? Serez-vous content ?”—
“ Les arts,” ajoutai-je, “ pourraient aussi
“ être pour Rome la cause d’une grande
“ prospérité ; mais les arts sont à présent
“ dans un état de langueur, et, à l’except-
“ tion de Votre Majesté et de la famille
“ impériale, qui ont ordonné des travaux,
“ personne ne fait travailler les artistes.
“ La religion, qui contribuait tant à la
“ prospérité des arts, devient elle-même
“ tiède et languissante.” Ici je lui ex-
posai, par des exemples tirés des Egyp-
tiens, des Grecs et des Romains, que la
religion seule avait fait fleurir les arts :
combien de sommes immenses avaient
été employées à la construction de Par-
thénon, et à la statue de Jupiter Olym-

pien, de Minerve, &c. ; que les vainqueurs
 offraient aux dieux leurs propres images,
 et les courtisanes elles-mêmes leurs statues ;
 que les Romains n'en avaient pas agi au-
 trement ; qu'ils avaient imprimé le sceau
 de la religion à tous leurs ouvrages pour
 les rendre plus augustes et plus respectés ;
 et je citai pour exemples les tombeaux, les
 statues, les théâtres, &c. &c. Ensuite
 je rappelai aussi les chefs-d'œuvre des arts
 modernes exécutés à-la-fois pour la re-
 ligion : l'église St. Mary à Venise, les ca-
 thédrales de Pise et d'Orvieto, le *Campo*
Santo de Pise, et d'autres merveilles sans
 nombre, remplies de marbres et de très
 belles peintures. Je conclus que toutes
 les religions font du bien aux arts, et notre
 religion catholique romaine plus encore
 que les autres ; les Protestans se contentent
 d'une simple chapelle et d'une croix, et
 par conséquent n'alimentent pas les arts.
 Alors l'Empereur, se tournant vers Marie-

Louise, dit : “ Il est vrai, la religion ali-
“ mente toujours les arts, et les Protestans
“ n’ont rien de beau.”

III.

Patience de Napoléon—Il n'étoit pas naturellement tyran—Du Pape Pie VII.—Querelle de Napoléon avec ce dernier—Caractère intrigant des Prêtres—Grégoire VII.—Des Colonnas et des Orsinis—Jules II. et Léon X.—Machiavelli—Romulus—Numa—Admiration de Napoléon pour les Romains—César—Rome dans un Etat de Détresse—Cause de la Dispute entre Napoléon et le Pape—De l'Excommunication—Piété de César—Titus, Trajan, et Marc Aurèle.

UN autre jour notre entretien tomba sur un sujet plus délicat, c'est-à-dire, sur le Souverain Pontife, sur les Papes et leurs gouvernemens. A cette occasion, j'osai lui dire des choses bien fortes. Je fus fort sur-

pris que Napoléon m'écoutât patiemment, et il me sembla que, dans le fond, il n'était pas d'un esprit tyrannique, mais qu'il était seulement gâté par ceux qui le flattaient et lui cachaient la vérité.

Le discours étant tombé sur mon bienfaiteur, Pie VII., je crus qu'il était de mon devoir de dire : " Pourquoi Votre Majesté " ne se réconcilie-t-elle pas en quelque " sorte avec le Pape ? " — Parce que les " prêtres veulent commander partout," répondit-il ; " qu'ils veulent se mêler de tout " être les maîtres de tout, comme Grégoire VII." — " Il me semble qu'à présent cela n'est point à craindre, puisque " Votre Majesté a partout le suprême pouvoir." — " Les Papes," ajouta-t-il, " ont " toujours empêché que la nation Italienne " se relevât, lors même qu'ils n'étaient pas " les maîtres absolus de Rome, et cela par " les factions des Colannes et des Orsini."

—“ Certes,” repris-je, “ si les Papes avaient
 “ eu le courage de Votre Majesté, ils au-
 “ raient eu des occasions bien favorables
 “ pour se rendre maîtres de toute l’Italie.”
 —“ Pour cela, voilà ce qu’il faut,” s’écria-t-
 il en portant la main sur son épée ; “ voilà
 “ ce qu’il faut.”—“ C’est vrai,” répondis-
 je ; “ nous avons vu que si Alexandre VI.
 “ eût vécu, le duc Valentino, à l’aide de
 “ l’épée, en avait commencé la conquête.
 “ Les tentatives en ce genre de Jules II. et
 “ de Léon X. ne furent pas non plus sans
 “ succès ; mais le plus souvent on élisait les
 “ Papes d’un âge trop avancé, et si l’un d’eux
 “ était entreprenant, l’autre était pacifique
 “ et tranquille.”—“ C’est l’épée qu’il faut,”
 répliqua-t-il.—“ Non pas l’épée seulement,”
 ajoutai-je, “ mais encore la houlette, Ma-
 “ chiavelli lui-même n’osa pas décider si les
 “ armes de Romulus ont plus contribué à
 “ l’agrandissement de Rome que la religion
 “ de Numa : tant il est vrai que ces deux

“ doivent marcher ensemble. Si les Pon-
 “ tifes ne se sont pas signalés dans les
 “ armes, ils ont cependant fait d’autres
 “ choses si éclatantes, qu’elles exciteront
 “ toujours l’admiration universelle.”

“ Le grand peuple que le Romain !”
 s’écria-t-il.—“ Certes, ce fut un grand peu-
 “ ple jusqu’à la seconde guerre Punique,”
 ajoutai-je.—“ César, César fut le grand
 “ homme,” il continua : “ Non pas le seul
 “ César, mais quelques autres empereurs
 “ encore, tels que Titus, Trajan, Marc-
 “ Aurèle . . . Toujours, toujours les Ro-
 “ mains furent grands,” dit-il, “ jusqu’à
 “ Constantin. Les Papes eurent tort de
 “ maintenir la discorde en Italie, et d’être
 “ toujours les premiers à appeler les Fran-
 “ çais et les Allemands. Ils n’étaient pas
 “ capables d’être soldats eux-mêmes, et
 “ ils ont beaucoup perdu.”—“ Puis donc
 “ qu’il en est ainsi,” repris-je, “ Votre Ma-

“ jecté ne permettra pas que nos maux
 “ s’augmentent, et je puis pourtant l’as-
 “ surer que, si elle ne vient au secours de
 “ Rome, cette ville redeviendra ce qu’elle
 “ était au temps où les Papes transférèrent
 “ le siège à Avignon. Avant cette époque
 “ elle avait une immense quantité d’eau et
 “ de fontaines ; mais les aqueducs tombè-
 “ rent en ruines, et l’on vendait l’eau du
 “ Tibre dans les rues : la ville était un dé-
 “ sert.” A ces mots, il parut un peu ému,
 et ensuite il dit avec vivacité : “ On m’op-
 “ pose des résistances ; eh quoi ! je suis
 “ maître de la France, de l’Italie, et de
 “ trois parties de l’Allemagne ; je suis le
 “ successeur de Charlemagne. Si le Pape
 “ actuel était comme celui de ce temps-là,
 “ tout serait arrangé. Et vos Vénitiens
 “ aussi, n’ont-ils pas rompu avec lui ? ”—
 “ Non pas de la même manière que Votre
 “ Majesté,” répondis-je ; “ vous êtes si
 “ grand, Sire, que vous pourriez bien ac-

“ corder au Pontife un lieu où l’on voye
 “ qu’il est indépendant, et où il puisse
 “ exercer librement son ministère.

—“ Eh quoi !” dit-il, “ est-ce que je ne
 “ lui laisse pas tout faire, lorsqu’il ne com-
 “ mande que ce qui a rapport avec la
 “ religion ?”—“ Oui ; mais vos ministres
 “ n’en agissent pas ainsi. Aussitôt que le
 “ Pape publie un mandement qui ne plaît
 “ pas au Gouvernement Français, à l’in-
 “ stant même il est déchiré.”—“ Com-
 “ ment !” répliqua-t-il, “ est-ce que je ne
 “ permets pas aux évêques de gouverner
 “ l’église comme ils l’entendent ? Est-ce
 “ qu’il n’y a point de religion ici ? Qui a
 “ relevé les autels ? Qui a protégé le cler-
 “ gé ?”—“ Si Votre Majesté,” dis-je, “ a
 “ des sujets religieux, ils seront encore plus
 “ affectionnés et obéissans pour sa per-
 “ sonne.”—“ C’est ce que je veux,” ré-
 pondit-il ; “ mais le Pape est tout Alle-

“ mand ;” et, en parlant ainsi, il regardait l’Impératrice. Elle dit alors ; “ Je puis
 “ vous assurer que quand j’étais en Alle-
 “ magne, on disait que le Pape était tout
 “ Français.”—“ Il n’a pas voulu,” ajouta
 “ Napoléon, “ expulser de ses états ni les
 “ Russes, ni les Anglais. C’est pour cela
 “ que nous nous sommes brouillés.”

Alors je m’enhardis à dire que j’avais lu les papiers et les justifications imprimées par le Pape, avec des documens officiels, et qu’il me paraissait avoir de fortes raisons Dans cet instant, le maréchal Duroc entra ; mais Napoléon m’interrompant, continua toujours à dire : “ Il a même
 “ prétendu m’excommunier. Ne sait-il
 “ pas que finalement nous pourrions être
 “ comme les Anglais et les Russes ?”—“ Je
 “ demande humblement excuse à votre
 “ Majesté,” lui dis-je ; “ mais le zèle qui
 “ m’anime, m’inspire la confiance de parler

“ avec liberté. Convenez-en, Sire ; il ne
 “ me semble pas qu’une telle scission fût
 “ dans vos intérêts. Que Dieu vous accorde
 “ de longues années ; mais si un jour il arri-
 “ vait quelque malheur, on pourrait crain-
 “ dre qu’il ne parût tout-à-coup un ambi-
 “ tieux qui, prenant pour ses propres inté-
 “ rêts le parti du Pape, occasionnerait de
 “ grands troubles dans l’état. Dans peu
 “ de temps, Sire, vous serez père ; il faut
 “ penser à établir solidement les choses. Je
 “ vous en supplie ; arrangez-vous avec le
 “ Pape de quelque manière que ce soit.”

—“ Vous voudriez donc nous voir rac-
 “ commodés ? et moi aussi je le voudrais ;
 “ mais considérez ce qu’ont été les Ro-
 “ mains avant qu’ils eussent des Papes.”
 —“ Que Votre Majesté considère aussi
 “ combien les Romains étaient religieux
 “ quand ils étaient grands. Ce César,
 “ qu’on célèbre si hautement, montait à

“ genoux les degrés du Capitole pour aller
“ au temple de Jupiter. On ne livrait pas
“ de batailles, à moins que les auspices re-
“ ligieux ne fussent favorables ; et si on
“ livrait, et même si l’on gagnait des ba-
“ tailles sans ces auspices, le général était
“ puni. On sait ce que Marcellus fit pour
“ les choses sacrées ; comment un consul
“ fut condamné pour avoir enlevé les tuiles
“ du temple de Jupiter dans la Grande-
“ Grèce. Au nom de Dieu, que Votre
“ Majesté protège la religion et son chef ;
“ qu’elle conserve les beaux temples de
“ l’Italie et de Rome. Il est bien doux de
“ se faire adorer plutôt que de se faire
“ craindre.” — “ C’est ce que je veux,” dit-
il ; et il brisa la conversation.

IV.

*Venise—Des Architectes—Soli—Palladio
—Ses Dessins sur les Commentaires de
César—Canova plaide en Faveur de Ve-
nise—Opinion de Machiavelli sur Venise
—Sa Lettre à Vettore Vettorito—Armes
de Venise—Jalousie des Vénitiens—Avis
de Napoléon au Directoire.*

UN autre jour on vint à parler de Venise, de ses artistes et de ses monumens, et il dit qu'il avait trouvé en Italie de bonnes cartes géographiques. Il me demanda les noms des architectes, et je lui citai les principaux, en donnant à chacun les éloges qu'il méritait. Ensuite je lui parlai de l'architecte Soli, qui dirigeait les nouveaux travaux de Venise, et qui avait empêché qu'on ne détruisît les belles fabriques, comme on en

avait formé le projet. Je lui parlai encore de *Palladio* et des planches gravées dont il avait enrichi les Commentaires de César, Je lui rappelai aussi les superbes édifices qu'il avait élevés, et que l'on voit épars dans l'état Vénitien. Je lui recommandai Venise avec tant de chaleur, que l'émotion que j'éprouvai me fit venir les larmes aux yeux,* et je lui dis : “ Je proteste à Votre
 “ Majesté que les Vénitiens sont de bonnes
 “ gens.”—“ Il est vrai ; je les crois bons.”
 —“ Mais ils ne sont pas heureux, Sire : le
 “ commerce est arrêté, les impositions sont
 “ pesantes ; il y a des départemens qui
 “ n'ont plus aucun moyen d'existence, tel
 “ que celui de Passereano, en faveur du-
 “ quel il circule un écrit célèbre, qui peut-
 “ être n'est pas parvenu jusqu'à Votre Ma-
 “ jesté.”—“ Non,” dit-il. Je pris courage, et j'ajoutai : “ J'en ai un exemplaire que je

* Canova était Vénitien.

“ puis montrer à Votre Majesté, si elle le
 “ désire.” Aussitôt j’ouvris mon porte-
 feuille, et je le lui présentai.

Napoléon, en regardant ce papier, dit :
 “ Il est court ;” et interrompant son dé-
 jeuner, il le lut ; il ajouta : “ J’en parlerai
 “ à Aldini.” Il le posa près de lui, et l’em-
 porta lorsqu’il s’en alla.

Continuant ensuite l’entretien sur Venise,
 je m’étendis un peu sur la forme et l’esprit
 de son gouvernement, et je lui fis observer
 que, d’après ce que dit Machiavelli dans ses
 ouvrages, il ne paraissait pas possible que
 Venise tombât jamais. Ce grand politique,
 allant en qualité de ministre de Florence
 auprès de l’empereur d’Allemagne, écrivit
 à *Vettore Vettorito* : “ *Mon cher ami, il me*
 “ *paraît que les Vénitiens se disposent à*
 “ *prendre la bonne route, puisqu’ils ont fait*

“ peindre saint Marc avec l'épée ; et, en effet, le livre seul ne suffit pas.*” J'ajoutai que “ les Vénitiens, craignant qu'il ne s'élevât parmi eux un César, n'avaient jamais voulu de général de leur nation en Terre-Ferme,† et que s'ils en avaient eu un, sans cependant proroger jamais le terme de ses fonctions, ils auraient fait des exploits bien plus éclatans.”

“ Certes,” répliqua l'Empereur, “ la

* Le lion était l'emblème de Venise, et comme il était en même temps un des quatre animaux qui, suivant l'Apocalypse, étaient le symbole des Évangélistes, il tenait dans sa patte élevée l'Évangile de saint Marc ; mais on voit par cette lettre de Machiavelli, que les Vénitiens avaient changé l'Évangile en une épée.

† Le Vénitien appelait *Terre-Ferme* tous les pays sujets à leur domination, tels que Padoue, Vérone, Brescia, &c. &c. pour les distinguer de Venise, entourée par la mer, et des autres îles sujettes à leur empire.

“ prolongation du commandement est une
“ chose bien dangereuse ; moi-même je
“ disais au Directoire, que s’il voulait tou-
“ jours la guerre, il viendrait quelqu’un
“ qui lui ferait la loi.”

V.

Des Florentins—Monument d'Alfieri—La Comtesse d'Albany—Monumens de Michel Ange, de Machiavelli, et de Galilée --Eglise de Santa Croce—Etat delabr  de cette Eglise—Cath drale de Florence Origine de la Famille de Napol on—Du Pr sident Alessandri—Acad mie de Florence.

UNE autre fois, nous parl mes des Florentins, et ce fut   l'occasion de la demande qu'il me fit, o  j'avais plac  le monument d'Alfieri. " Dans l' glise de *Santa Croce*," r pondis-je ; " o  sont aussi ceux de Michel-Ange et de Machiavelli."—" Qui l'a pay  ?"—" La comtesse d'Albany."—" Qui paya le monument de Machiavelli ?"—" Une soci t ,   ce que je crois."—" Et

“ celui de Galilée ? ” — “ Ses parens, si je
 “ ne me trompe. Cette église de *Santa-*
 “ *Croce*, ” continuai-je, “ est dans un très
 “ mauvais état ; l’eau y pénètre par le toit,
 “ et il faut partout des réparations. Il est
 “ de la gloire de Votre Majesté de con-
 “ server ces beaux monumens ; si le gou-
 “ vernement prend les rentes, il est bien
 “ juste qu’il laisse les fonds de dotations
 “ pour l’entretien des fabriques. Il en est
 “ de même de la cathédrale de Florence ;
 “ elle commence à se détériorer par le
 “ manque de fonds destinés à son entre-
 “ tien. Et même, à-propos des églises
 “ remplies d’objets très intéressans, je suis
 “ chargé d’une supplique tendante à de-
 “ mander à Votre Majesté qu’elle ne per-
 “ mette pas que les monumens de l’art
 “ soient vendus aux Juifs. ” — “ Comment
 “ vendus ? ” s’écria-t-il. “ Tout ce qu’il y
 “ a de bon, nous le ferons transporter ici. ”

—“ De grâce, que Votre Majesté laisse
 “ à Florence tous ses monumens, qui sont
 “ un accompagnement nécessaire des ou-
 “ vrages à fresque, lesquels ne peuvent
 “ être transportés ailleurs. Il serait même
 “ convenable que le président de l’Acadé-
 “ mie de Florence pût prendre librement
 “ les mesures nécessaires pour l’entretien
 “ des beaux ouvrages d’architecture et des
 “ fresques.” —“ Je le veux bien,” dit-il, —
 “ Ce sera glorieux pour Votre Majesté,
 “ d’autant plus que j’ai entendu dire que
 “ sa famille est d’origine Florentine.” A
 ces mots, l’Impératrice se tourna et dit :
 “ Vous n’êtes pas Corse ? ” —“ Si fait, ré-
 pondit-il, “ mais d’origine Florentine.”*

* Il est vrai que dans les temps les plus reculés la famille de Bonaparte était connue à Florence ; mais il paraît qu’à la suite des temps et des révolutions, une branche passa à St.-Miniato, petite ville entre Florence et Pise, et que cette branche y a existé jusqu’en ces derniers temps. D’autres branches se fixèrent ensuite à Sarzana, dans le Génovéfât, et à Ajaccio, dans l’île de Corse.

Alors j'ajoutai que le président de l'Académie de Florence, qui s'intéressait avec tant de zèle à la conservation des monumens, était le sénateur Alessandri, d'une des plus illustres maisons de Florence, qui anciennement maria une de ses filles à un ascendant de la famille de Bonaparte ;
“ Par conséquent, vous êtes Italien, Sire,
“ et nous nous en glorifions.” — “ Je le
“ suis, certainement,” repartit-il. C'est ainsi que je lui recommandai instamment l'Académie de Florence.

VI.

Académie de St. Luc—Des Peintres Italiens—Opinion de Canova sur les nouveaux Ouvrages faits à Paris—De la Colonne de Bronze—Des Routes Publiques—Route projectée de Parme jusqu' au Golphe de la Spezia.

UN autre jour aussi je parlai long-temps en faveur de l'Académie de St.-Luc de Rome, qui était sans école, sans rentes et sans ressources ; je lui représentai qu'il était nécessaire de l'organiser comme celle de Milan. Je revins une autre fois à ce discours, et je dis avec adresse : “ Que
 “ Votre Majesté suppose qu'elle a un mu-
 “ sicien ou une *cantatrice* de moins, et
 “ qu'elle assigne une dot à l'Académie de
 “ St.-Luc.” Je dis cela parce que je savais

qu'il donnait à Crescentini trente-six mille francs par an. Je le trouvai très disposé à cela, et en conséquence j'écrivis une lettre à M. Menneval, secrétaire particulier de l'Empereur, pour l'informer que Sa Majesté était très disposée à favoriser les arts à Rome, et qu'elle avait promis un décret, dont je désirais être moi-même le porteur. En effet, le 8 Novembre, M. Menneval me fit tenir, par le ministre Marescalchi, une lettre qui contenait les dispositions de Sa Majesté pour l'Académie Romaine.

En parlant de l'Académie et des artistes Romains, l'Empereur dit : " L'Italie est
 " mal pourvue de peintres ; en France,
 " nous en avons de meilleurs." Je lui répondis que, depuis plusieurs années, je n'avais pas vu les ouvrages des peintres Français, et que je ne pouvais pas établir de comparaison ; mais que cependant nous avions des hommes bien distingués : Ca-

muccini et Landi à Rome, Benvenuti à Florence, Appiani et Bossi à Milan, étaient des peintres très habiles. Il dit que les Français manquaient un peu de coloris ; mais que, dans le dessin, ils surpassaient les nôtres. J'eus soin d'observer que les nôtres aussi dessinaient bien ; que, laissant de côté Camuccini, dont le grand mérite est bien connu, le peintre Bossi avait fait des contours divins, et Appiani avait peint à fresque les salons du palais de Sa Majesté à Milan, de telle manière que je croyais impossible de faire mieux. “ A fresque, “ vous avez raison : mais non pas à l'huile,” me répondit-il. Je pris la défense des nôtres, et je dis qu'il fallait observer que les artistes Français recevaient de bien plus grands encouragemens ; qu'ils étaient bien plus nombreux ; et que si on les voulait compter, on verrait qu'ils surpasseraient en nombre tous les artistes du reste de l'Europe.

Il m'interrogea sur le salon et sur les autres ouvrages d'architecture qui s'élevaient à Paris, et je fis des éloges bien mérités des grands artistes Français et de leur numéniens. "Avez-vous vu la colonne de bronze?"—"Elle me paraît bien belle, Sire."—"Ces aigles aux angles ne me plaisent pas."—"Cependant le même ornement se trouve aussi à la colonne Trajane, dont celle-ci est une imitation."

—"Cet arc que l'on construit au bois de Boulogne, sera-t-il beau?"—"Très beau. Il y a tant d'ouvrages de Votre Majesté qui sont véritablement dignes des anciens Romains, et particulièrement les routes magnifiques. . . ."—"L'année prochaine," dit-il, "on achèvera la route de la *Cornice*, par laquelle on pourra aller de Paris à Gènes sans traverser les neiges. Je veux en faire une autre de Parme au golfe de la *Spezia*, où je veux

“ former un grand port.”—“ Ce sont de
“ grands projets,” répondis-je, “ dignes du
“ vaste génie de Votre Majesté ; mais il
“ convient aussi de songer à la conserva-
“ tion des beaux ouvrages des anciens.”

VII.

Canova finit le Buste de l'Impératrice—Sa Ressemblance frappante—Curiosité de l'Impératrice—Ses Louanges sur la Statue de la Princesse.

LE soir du 4 Novembre, je fus chez l'Impératrice avec son buste en plâtre ; elle se mit dans la même attitude pour mieux le faire juger aux dames qui jouaient avec elle, et toutes convinrent de la ressemblance, Napoléon n'y était pas. C'est pourquoi l'Impératrice dit que le lendemain matin elle voulait le lui montrer à l'heure du déjeuner. Ensuite elle ajouta : “ Vraiment, “ M. Canova, vous ne voulez pas rester “ ici ? ” — “ Je veux me rendre tout de “ suite à Rome, ” répondis-je, “ que Votre “ Majesté, à son arrivée, qui j'espère, aura

“ bientôt lieu, y trouve le modèle tout fait
“ de sa statue de grandeur naturelle.” Ici
l’Impératrice me fit beaucoup de questions
sur la manière de mouler le modèle et de
l’exécuter en marbre. On parla de ma sta-
tue qui représente la princesse *Léopoldine*
Linctestein, et l’Impératrice me dit : “ C’est
“ véritablement là qu’on trouve la beauté
“ idéale.”

VIII.

*Approbation de Napoléon au Sujet du Buste
—L'Impératrice représentant la Con-
corde—Avis de Canova à Marie Louise
—Expression de Napoléon au Sujet des
Femmes—Raisons de Canova pour ne pas
se marier—Canova demande de nouveau
la Permission de retourner à Rome—Na-
poléon la lui accorde.*

QUELQUES jours après, l'Empereur vit le buste ; il fit mettre l'Impératrice en attitude, la fit sourire, et fut content du travail. Je lui dis qu'il me semblait que cette physionomie plutôt gaie convenait mieux au caractère de *la Concorde*, sous l'image de laquelle je me proposais de représenter l'Impératrice, parce que c'était à elle qu'on devait la paix.

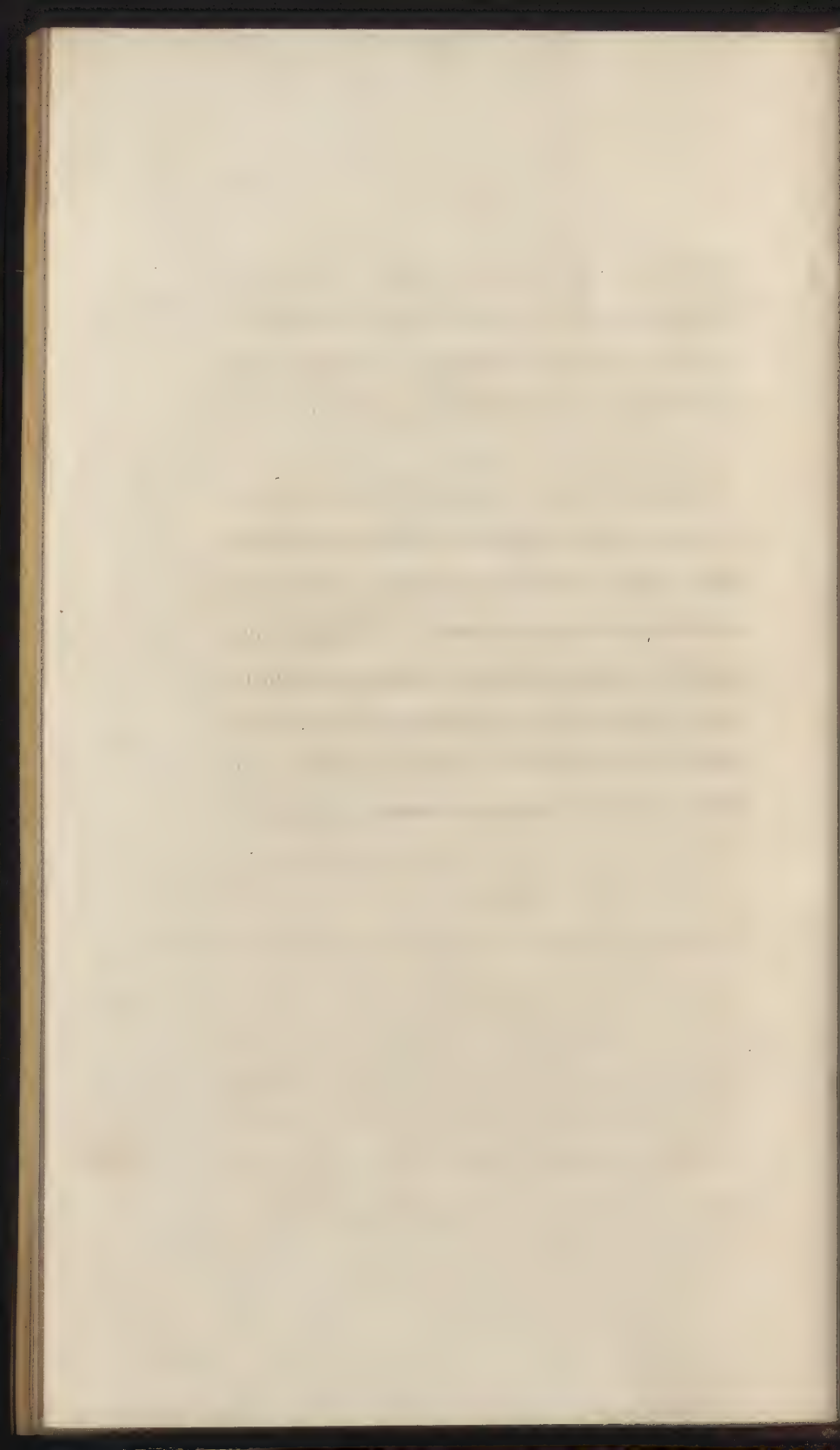
L'Impératrice était un peu enrhumée, et je me permis de lui dire, qu'il me semblait qu'elle avait peu de soin de sa santé ; qu'elle allait à la chasse en calèche découverte, ce qui était dangereux, particulièrement pour elle qui était enceinte.

“ Vous voyez comme elle est,” dit Napoléon ; “ tout le monde en est étonné ;
 “ mais les femmes (en se frappant le front
 “ avec le bout de l'index), les femmes
 “ veulent que tout se fasse à leur fantaisie.
 “ Ecoutez ! A présent elle voudrait venir
 “ à Cherbourg, qui est à une distance
 “ de tant de lieues ; moi, je lui dis tous
 “ jours de se soigner. Et vous, êtes-
 “ vous marié ? ” — “ Non, Sire,” répondis-
 “ je ; “ j'ai été plusieurs fois sur le point de
 “ me marier, mais beaucoup d'incidens me
 “ conservèrent la liberté ; et la crainte
 “ aussi de ne pas trouver une femme qui
 “ m'aimât comme je l'aurais aimée, me

“ détourna de changer d'état, afin d'être
“ libre et me livrer tout entier à mon art.”
—“ Ah! femmes! femmes!” dit Napoléon
en souriant, et continuant à manger.

Comme plusieurs fois je lui avais fait sentir le désir que j'avais de me rendre à Rome après avoir modelé le buste de l'Impératrice, disant toujours que je ne voulais rien pour moi, il me parut que mes refus déplurent à l'Empereur ; et revenant alors à l'article de mon départ, il me congédia en disant : “ Allez, puisque vous le voulez.”

FIN.



*Translation of Canova's Letter to
Mr. Henning.*

SIR,

THROUGH the kindness of His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, I have received the specimen of the Cartoons of Raphael, admirably executed in the very manner of the marbles of the Parthenon, which I possess, and preserve with so much pleasure. I am most grateful for your kindness to me, and for those attentions which I have in no degree merited; and your present is the more agreeable, as it is spontaneous and unexpected. I highly approve your intention of giving in a similar form the Tigalian Marbles; and am sure, that such an undertaking will meet with every encouragement from an intelligent public. The seal of your letter is very well executed, and I rejoice

with you in the praiseworthy and estimable proofs of attachment from your excellent pupils.

To your question respecting the eagle painted by Annibal Caracci, on the zodaical sign of the Scorpion, in the Farnese Villa, I cannot give you a positive answer ; but the following is the opinion of a very learned man :—That Caracci may be supposed, either from his own idea, or at the suggestion of others, to have united these two signs in allusion to the celebrated Octavio Farnese, nephew of Paul III. who was born in October, 1524, in which month that sign prevails ; and as that nobleman married the Marchioness of Austria, Caracci might, perhaps, have intended the zodaical sign of the Eagle to commemorate the nuptials. The Hercules bearing the Globe is now at Naples, and in the Vatican Library here is the cast of it ; in which I

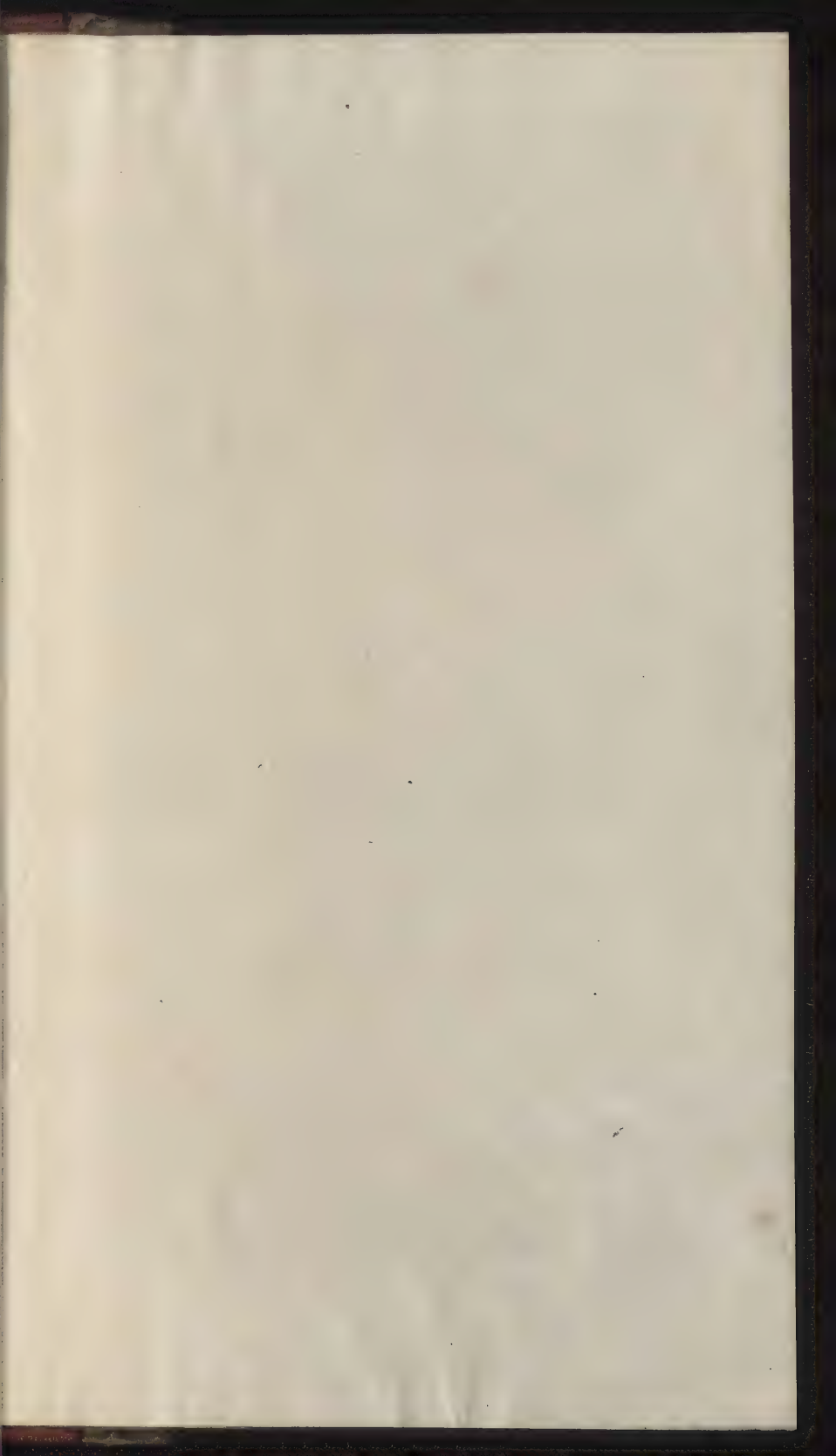
perceive that the sign of the Scorpion is intersected by that of the serpent, after which comes the Eagle.

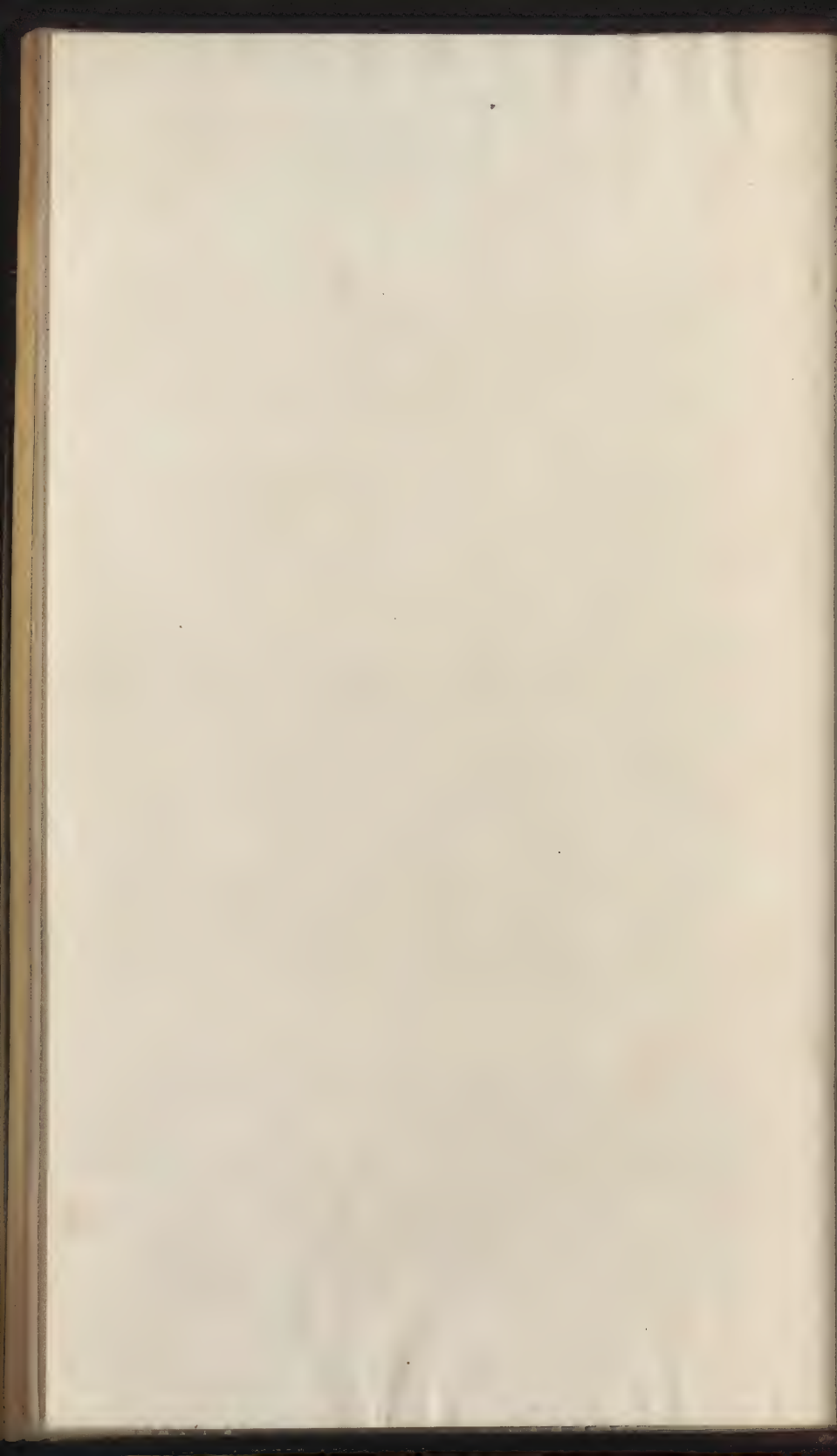
Accept, &c.

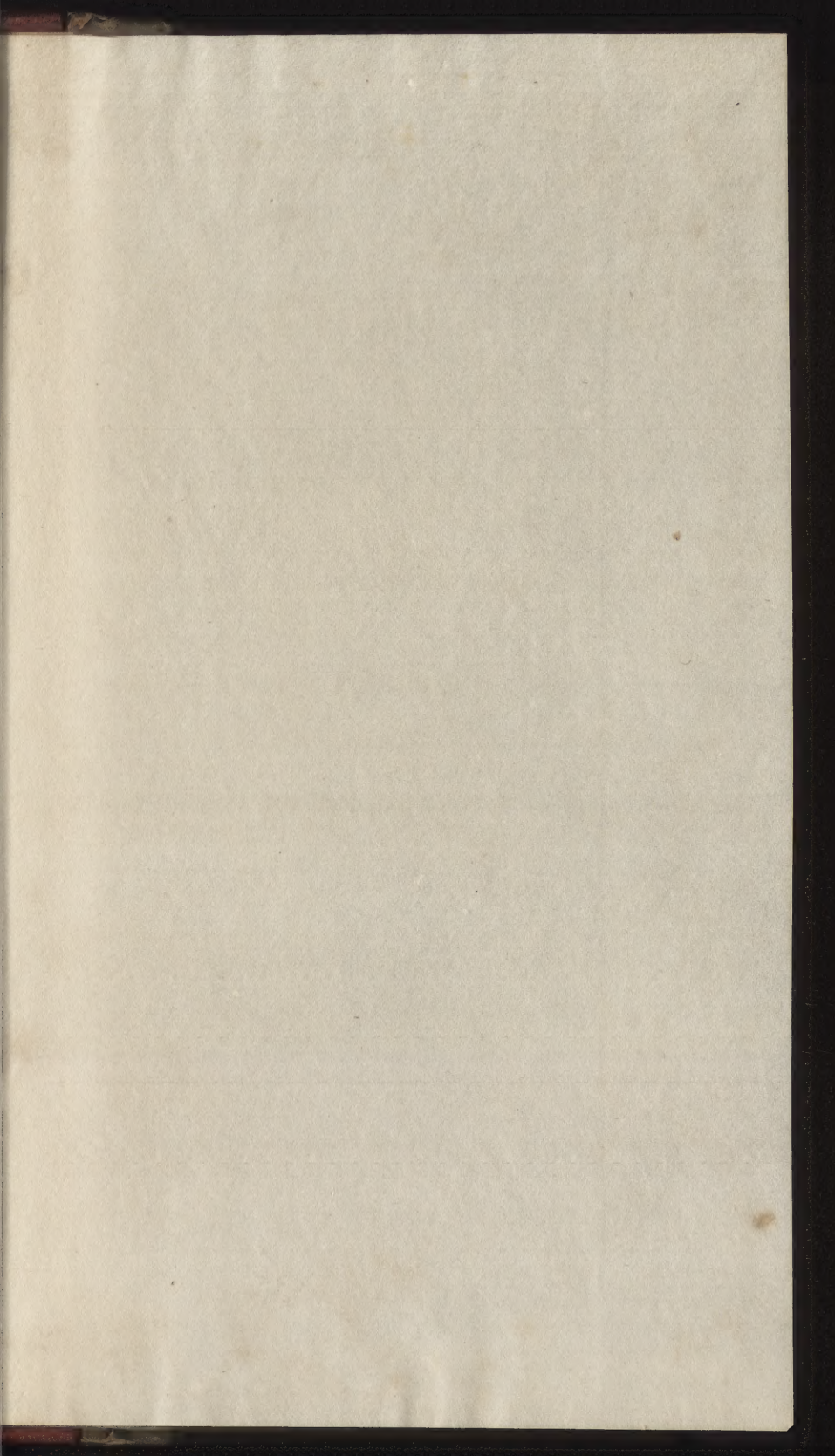
Rome, May 9, 1821.

Mr. HENNING.

MARCHANT, PRINTER, INGRAM-COURT.







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71



